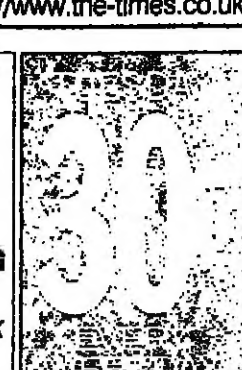
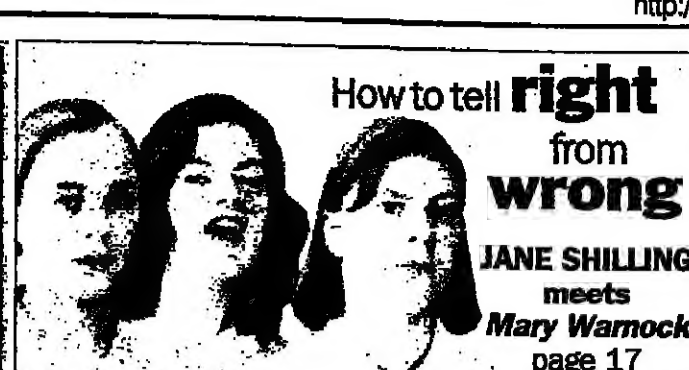
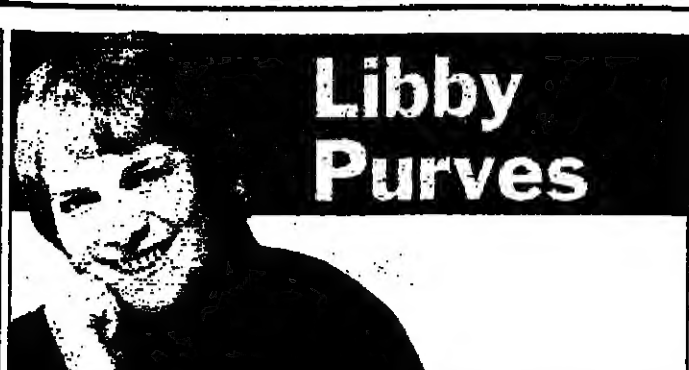
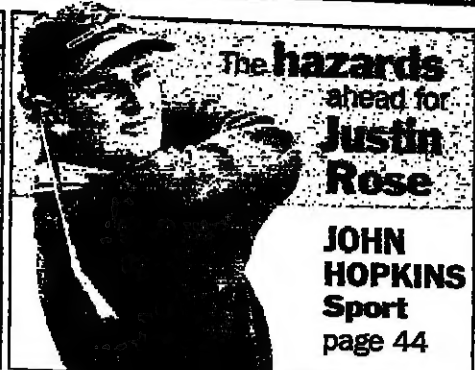
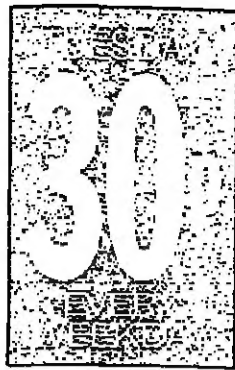


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Childcare checks tightened

Urgent review as lying minder is jailed for murder

By ALEXANDRA FREAN AND MICHAEL HORSNELL

HARRIET HARMAN ordered an immediate review of childcare regulations last night after a registered childminder was jailed for life for shaking a five-month-old baby to death.

The Social Security Secretary is also to join forces with David Blunkett in demanding a national register for nannies, even though a government task force recently came out against the idea.

Ms Harman said that the Government would examine the issues raised by the death of Joseph Mackin as a matter of urgency and conceded that the regulatory system had failed. Helen Stacey, who murdered Joseph on his fourth day at her home in North Walsham, Norfolk, had lied to secure registration, concealing her past as a prostitute and the fact that she had given up three of her own children for adoption.

Norfolk County Council, which registered Stacey, has since introduced new procedures and its example may be followed nationwide. A national childminding register may also be introduced so that all local authorities carry out the same checks and share information on rejected applicants.

Stacey, 41, failed to declare on her application that she had been married twice, so that no checks could be conducted on her life as Helen Owen, during which she had been convicted of soliciting and shoplifting.

Norfolk County Council now demands that applicants produce a marriage certificate, which shows a previous marriage and opens a new avenue for security checks. It also requires a doctor's report on all applicants: had one been necessary in Stacey's case it would have shown that she had been treated for depression. Both checks may now become national procedure.

Ministers are acutely aware that the present regulatory system is inconsistent and incoherent and that plans to create 10,000 extra daycare places for school-age children could fail unless standards can be tightened up and better enforced. They are also worried that failures in the control of childcare threaten to undermine the drive to get more women back to work.

Responsibility for regulating

childcare has recently been switched from the education to the health department, while the registering and inspection of childminders is left to local social services departments.

Guidance notes for local authorities issued by the last Government criticise local authorities for applying rules "too rigidly" and state: "Standards should not be unrealistically high to the point where they inhibit the expansion of daycare and childminding services." That has led some social services departments to regard it as their duty to register someone unless they can prove that there are strong reasons to reject the application, but last night Ms Harman said: "We will have to address the failure of the regulatory system to ensure that it is robust enough."

Ms Harman and Mr Blunkett have also decided to ignore the recent recommendations of the Better Regulation Task Force and demand a national register for nannies — who are totally unregulated at present. "It is not a question of shelving the recommendations on nannies," a source said. "They will not even get onto the shelf in the first place."

Gill Haynes, chief executive of the National Childminding Association, said: "Registration and inspection should be standardised throughout the country and police checks on childminders and other adults living in the household should be maintained." And Collette Kelleher of the childcare charity Daycare Trust, said that regulation should be on a par with other regulatory systems, such as that operated by the schools inspectorate Ofsted. "We would like national standards to be enforced and a proper system of sharing information between local authorities."

The judge in Stacey's trial also spoke of his anxieties about the inquiries conducted on potential childminders and called for a searching inquiry into the case, saying: "The public should have the greatest confidence in childminders."

Mr Justice Blofield had just sentenced Stacey to life imprisonment for murdering the "helpless" child

Continued on page 2, col 5



Helen Stacey arriving at Norwich Crown Court, where she was sentenced to life imprisonment

£1 billion tolls and taxes to pay for Prescott's transport dawn

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND PHILIP WEBSTER

JOHN PRESCOTT yesterday revived long-contested plans for drivers to be charged for travelling on motorways and main roads as he put a three-pronged attack on congestion at the heart of his "new dawn" for transport.

Councils are to be allowed to charge drivers for entering busy city centres and holiday areas such as the national parks; employers will be taxed on the parking spaces they provide for their workers and toll schemes are to be allowed on motorways and other trunk roads, although only on a wide scale after better technology has been developed.

The three streams of revenue are planned to bring in about £1 billion a year within seven years, with the charges on parking spaces — an average of £150 a year but more than £500 in central London — possibly in place by the next general election.

As a first step, tolling at the Thames Tideway crossings, due to end in 1999, could be continued with the revenue being used on schemes to widen the M25 and improve traffic flow on London's orbital motorway. As recently as this year ministers have ruled out tolls for at least ten years but they are clearly back on the agenda. The White Paper said that trials would ensure that tolling systems could cope with high volumes of traffic and cover issues such as personal privacy and diversions on to untolled roads.

Mr Prescott also gave the strongest hint that next week's roads review announcement will axe many of the building schemes left in the pipeline by the Conservatives, although it

is expected that the M25 in Surrey will be widened with bus lanes in both directions. Investment in future will concentrate on better maintenance and management of existing roads.

But the Deputy Prime Minister's 170-page White Paper *A new deal for transport: better for everyone* confirmed that some of his more radical ideas — including taxes on parking spaces at out-of-town supermarkets and city centre stores — have been dropped. Tony Blair is believed to have ruled that they would be a step too far in upsetting the Middle England voters who switched to Labour in 1997.

The Conservatives said that Mr Prescott had missed a big opportunity. It was "jams today and taxes tomorrow". Gillian Shephard, the Shadow Transport Secretary, said the White Paper would mean

Continued on Page 2, col 5



Tidal wave's lost generation

Rescuers fear that the Papua New Guinea tidal wave may have killed 3,000 people.

A Franciscan missionary stationed on the hill above Sissano lagoon said that 70 per cent of the survivors were adults and that no children were coming into the local hospital. A generation of children may have been wiped out. Page 14

Galliano visits fantasyland

John Galliano's *haute couture* show at the Gare d'Orsay was the most extravagant Paris has seen.

Squaws, musketeers and Tudor and Stuart royalty disembarked from the Orient Express and strolled through changing scenes of squalor and railway station. Page 3



Solicitors want Goofy weekend

By FRANCES GIBB LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Law Society has drafted in Mickey Mouse and his pals to help its annual conference attract younger solicitors.

In an attempt to rid the conference of its image as a "golf tour for the middle aged", the Society has chosen Disneyland Paris for the three-day event next year.

Leaders hope that Space Mountain, Pirates of the Caribbean or a meeting with Mickey, Goofy and pals will attract a younger and larger audience than those at recent venues such as Bournemouth and Birmingham.

The Society rather solemnly announced the new venue as a "radical change in approach", explaining that "most solicitors are under 40 — at an age when they are likely to have family commitments which make it difficult to attend weekend conferences".

Disneyland Paris would enable them to combine attendance at a conference with a family holiday, it said.

The event is at half-term. The £1,300 package for a family of four includes a hotel, travel and rides. A normal Disneyland three-night package costs £350 per head, so the Law Society can boast that its deal is cheaper.

Benefits may go direct to mothers

By VALERIE ELLIOTT, WHITEHALL EDITOR

WEEKLY state benefits may be paid directly to women in a shake-up of the present rules by Harriet Harman, Social Security Secretary. The change would leave many men with just pocket money from the State to cover their needs, while women would take official charge of family finances.

The move — the most radical since Miss Harman, the Secretary of State for Social Security, was appointed Cabinet Minister for women's issues — is part of her determination to modernise a social security system that she believes has failed to keep pace with changes in society.

But, before pressing ahead with the change, she will order a research study to see how households do manage their budgets. She is convinced that in many cases, particularly in low-income families, it is

women who manage the purse-strings and budget for the family.

She is also set to announce that the idea will be piloted in a number of areas to see if families back the idea of women getting any cash entitlements — such as the job-seeker's allowance, income support, family credit, disability living allowance, housing benefit and council tax benefit — for themselves and their children. In some cases, she believes, women might still prefer to receive cash from husbands or partners.

Miss Harman is also to spearhead a new publicity drive to make sure couples know that they may already opt to have cash paid directly to women. Benefits Agency staff tend to highlight the rule only when the male head of a household is an alcoholic or drug addict.

Schoolboys' woman friend has hepatitis, parents told

By JOANNA BALE

A HEADTEACHER has warned the parents of hundreds of pupils that some youngsters may have been infected with hepatitis B by a local woman.

Several teenage boys at Paignton Community College, Devon, have been offered tests after the young woman named them as sexual partners or close friends when asked to help trace those at risk.

Although she has not been identified, she is a heroin addict and a single mother who lives near the mixed comprehensive school and may have had sex with as many as 40 boys. There are also fears that some pupils may have shared drug-taking equipment with her.

The warning letter was sent by Jane English to the parents of 700 pupils, aged 14 to 16, on Friday with details of a tele-

phone helpline set up by South and West Devon Health Authority.

The Rev John Quilm, chairman of the governors, said: "I am aware that around 40 pupils have had contact with this woman but I do not think that all of them have had sex with her. Some people are like magnets and many young people socialised with each other at this woman's house."

Hundreds of worried parents who rang the helpline were told by doctors that the woman was a known drug user and that tests and immunisations were available for those worried.

One parent said: "Everyone is very worried because so many of the older pupils hung around with this woman. At least we know the score now and can get our kids tested."

The letter pointed out that

most people were "unlikely to catch the disease" but that those at higher risk were people who inject drugs with shared needles and who have unprotected sex with someone carrying the virus.

There is no cure for hepatitis B, which is carried in blood and body fluids. Around 10 per cent of sufferers are infectious and can develop liver damage, although most people make a full recovery and are left with a life-long immunity. Symptoms include a mild flu-like illness and jaundice and can take up to six months to appear.

Paignton Community College, which is divided into an Upper and Lower School, has 1,600 pupils aged 11 to 18. Its academic record is poor — it came 79th out of 87 schools in Devon in the GCSE results tables last year.

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Brown dismisses unions' demand for extra £3bn

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

GORDON BROWN yesterday firmly rejected union leaders' demands for a £3 billion investment package to create jobs and head off a potential recession.

After an hour-long meeting with a TUC delegation, the Chancellor made clear that there would be no extra spending and that he was determined to keep a tight rein on public-sector pay.

Tonight Mr Brown will deliver the same message at a meeting of the trade union group of MPs at Westminster, amid signs that the Government is heading for a bitter confrontation with unions in the next few months.

On Sunday, the Amalgamated Engineering and Electri-

cians Union withdrew £1 million from its annual donation to the Labour Party to spend on its own candidates for Labour's National Executive Committee. The decision to withhold the money followed concern that the NEC would be filled by Tony Blair's placemen.

Yesterday Roger Lyons, general secretary of the Manufacturing, Science and Finance Union, said that failure to meet public-sector pay claims would build up a "reservoir of resentment".

Mr Lyons, who met Mr Brown at the Treasury yesterday, said that private-sector pay increases were running at about twice that of public-

if pay continued to drift lower, the best people would leave the public sector.

But Mr Brown made clear that there would be no easing of pay restraints and no additional spending to the £57 billion announced last week. "This is not the right time or the right approach either for the economy or for the reforms that are necessary in the public services," a spokesman for Mr Brown said.

The delegation led by John Monks, the General Secretary of the TUC, warned the Chancellor that there was a two-speed economy, with near-recession in the manufacturing sector and growth in the private sector.

The £3 billion package was designed to cover an extension of the New Deal and related training measures, as well as bringing forward capital investment for social housing.

Mr Monks also urged Mr Brown to prepare now for entry to a single currency and to send out a clear signal that interest rates had peaked so that convergence criteria for economic and monetary union could be reached.

After the meeting Mr Monks said that the Chancellor had given him no encouragement that there would be any short-term boost to the economy, although discussions would continue between the two sides.

The delegation also included John Edmonds, TUC president, Barry Reamsbottom, of the Public and Commercial Services Union, Ken Jackson of the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union, and Rila Donaghy of Unison.

Tonight's meeting with the trade union group of MPs was originally requested by Mr Brown to discuss the minimum wage.

Last night's defeat in the Lords on the Government's national minimum wage is bound to be raised, but the group of MPs will also express their concerns about the impact of pay restraint on the morale of public service workers.



John Prescott leaves the Commons in chauffeur-driven style after urging motorists to leave their cars at home

Savaged road rage victim finds himself up before a vicious beak

Tooth extraction is never pleasant but for your sketchwriter there was a silver lining: my ordeal yesterday took me away from John Prescott's statement on his comprehensive transport strategy. Whatever horrors the dentist's chair may hold, they are nothing compared with a Prescott oration. As the syringe loomed I counted myself lucky.

Arriving at the Chamber as Mr Prescott sat down, I was just in time to hear the response from his Tory Shadow, Gillian Shephard.

On the Isle of Wight the remains of a small, sharp-beaked predator from the Jurassic age have recently been discovered. Previously unnamed, the bird-lizard was a vicious hunter. It may be a forerunner of today's mammals. Observing Mrs Shephard clawing her prey it is possible to believe this. The creature should be named the



MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Gillidactyl. I watched her with a thin stream of blood trickling down the back of my throat. The sensation was peculiarly appropriate.

Mrs Shephard fixed Prescott with a beady eye and pecked relentlessly at him. Her questions were interminable. What were his targets and how would he monitor them? What about land-use planning? What was he going to do to make cars greener?

How was local authority grant to be redistributed — and, while she was on the subject, what about the cost of diesel? "My word!" she said, the plan had been "oversold".

Mr Prescott gazed at her in blank, jowly horror as she screamed. There is, apparently, a Mr Shephard — Tom. One pictures Tom at breakfast, the Gillidactyl warming up for her parliamentary day.

"Why commutes, Tom? Don't burn the toast. Why so much sugar in your tea? How can you have finished the marmalade in a week? What are your body-weight targets and how do you plan to monitor them?" As the Gillidactyl's merciless twitter went on — and on, and on — I reached for Mr

Prescott's text and speed-read. The words "bus" or "buses" occurred more than a score of times in the first couple of pages — and then disappeared completely from his plan. Isn't that always the way? You wait fifteen months for a comprehensive spending review, then twenty buses come along at once. Then nothing till the millennium.

Reading from prepared statements these days, the Deputy Prime Minister speaks and looks increasingly as though he were delivering his text at gunpoint. But in

impromptu answers a bit of the old Prescott still shows through. Becoming confused between roads and motorways, Mr Prescott promised motorways to one Labour backbencher.

"When you do a gas the gas comes out of the car and if the car's not moving you get less gas," he announced to startled MPs. "My honourable friend the legislative committees," he declared, in an apparent reference to House Leader Ann Taylor.

"Consumer bodices," were another novelty unveiled yesterday. The comprehensive spending review became, at one point in his answers, "the compulsory spending review".

Nick Hawkins (C, Surrey Heath) recalled the transport supremo's promise to "put his money where his mouth is". But if Mr Prescott put his money where his mouth was the nation would be bankrupt. His mouth is all over the place.

Liberal Democrat spokesman Matthew Taylor (Liberal) is always hotter than holy. "I complained Prescott crossly suggested that if workplace parking was to be taxed, MPs' free parking at Westminster should bear the new levy too."

"Steady on!" called Labour backbenchers.

Hypnotist tells judge how he breaks the spell

ANYONE looking in on the High Court yesterday could have been forgiven for thinking the judge was falling under the defendant's spell.

Paul McKenna, the stage hypnotist, was running through a few of his sketches. At the request of his counsel, he outlined the de-hypnotising process that comes at the end of the act.

He said: "My de-hypnotising routine takes about three minutes with music, and I tell the participants, 'You're going to remember amusing and enjoyable things from this show - the ballet dancing and the Martians'."

Turning to Mr Justice Toulson, he continued: "When you awaken, you will again be in control of your own destiny, you will feel refreshed, relaxed, and alert with a deep inner joy and renewed optimism."

Mr McKenna was giving evidence on the sixth day of a hearing in which Christopher Gates, who volunteered to take part in one of his shows, is claiming £250,000 from him for mental illness that he claims he suffered as a result. Mr McKenna denies claims by Mr Gates that he was brought out of his trance in an unprofessional manner.

Mr McKenna, who told the court he had suspended live stage performances in this country pending the outcome of the court case, said of the

Paul McKenna

denies being

unprofessional

with volunteer.

Deborah

Collett reports

thousands of volunteers he had hypnotised, only Mr Gates claimed to have suffered serious side effects.

Asked by his counsel, Roger Henderson, if he believed stage hypnotism could trigger schizophrenia, Mr McKenna replied: "No, I didn't believe it then and I don't believe it now."

Mr Gates, 30, was remembered by the entertainer as the "star of the show" during a performance at the Swan Theatre in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, in March, 1994. Nine days later, Mr Gates, from High Wycombe, was admitted to hospital suffering an acute schizophrenic episode and says that he has been unable to work as a furniture polisher since then.

Mr McKenna, who denies claims by Mr Gates that he put him in a trance before he left the audience to volunteer,

said: "I remember he was keen to participate, and I remember him as enjoying the show." He also countered suggestions by Mr Gates and his girlfriend, Beverly Gibbs, who watched the show, that the lighting, music, and atmosphere were deliberately "spooky" designed to entice vulnerable members of the audience.

He said: "One piece of music is from *Thunderbirds*, the children's TV show. The lights only dim when the participants are being hypnotised, and I have never hypnotised people in their seats."

Asked if any of his volunteers had displayed signs of distress or illness on stage similar to the symptoms described by Mr Gates, Mr McKenna said two people had fainted because of the intense heat of the stage lighting, and a few had become tearful.

"What about inappropriate laughter?" Mr Henderson asked. "Yes, a couple of times," Mr McKenna replied. "As serious as Mr Gates?" "No". He said that on leaving the stage, Mr Gates appeared to have left the trance and returned to normal.

To claims that Mr McKenna re-hypnotised Mr Gates over the telephone after being contacted by Miss Gibbs a few days after the show, he replied: "During the conversation, Mr Gates said that he was becoming angry. I said everything would be OK - it's a standard part of counselling. I tried to remain calm and do my best to reassure him."

Mr McKenna took the court through his career from his days as a local radio disc jockey to television show host, performing live to hundreds of thousands of people nationwide. He recalled having to rely on friends to scrape the money together to hire the Duke of York's theatre in London for his first hypnosis show, and barely filling the 600-seat auditorium. He had been performing his hypnosis shows on Broadway in New York immediately before returning to London for the court case, which continues.



Christopher Gates, left, claims mental problems after acting as a volunteer in Paul McKenna's stage show



Bentley's co-accused may prove innocence

By ADRIAN LEE

A POLICEMAN'S killer is willing to provide fresh evidence that could prove the innocence of Derek Bentley, 45 years after he was hanged for murder.

As the appeal against Bentley's conviction began yesterday, Christopher Craig said he was prepared to testify that Bentley tried to stop him firing. The evidence was not heard at the men's trial, in 1952, on the instructions of Mr Craig's lawyer, who feared that it would harm his client's case.

Mr Craig, who was convicted of murder but was too young to be executed with Bentley, has taken a lie detector test and could give evidence at the High Court tomorrow if his evidence is ruled admissible.

At the original trial police alleged that Bentley, aged 19 at the time of the shooting on the roof of a South London warehouse, shouted to his accomplice: "Let him have it, Chris."

That evidence in effect condemned Bentley, who had a mental age of 11, to death, even though Mr Craig fired the shot and Bentley was not carrying a gun.

Mr Craig is prepared to describe for the first time in court how Bentley remonstrated with him when he realised he (Craig) was armed with a Colt.45. Edward Fitzgerald, QC, for Bentley, said the execution was "nothing short of cruel".

Robbers shoot aid worker in Kenyan capital

FROM DAVID ORR IN NAIROBI AND ADAM FRESKO

A BRITISH aid worker was shot dead as he dined alone at a popular international restaurant in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi.

Colin Baker, 45, from Sussex, who worked for ActionAid, was walking to the till to pay for his meal at the Papa Loca Mexican restaurant in the Westlands area when armed raiders burst in and shot him twice in the chest on Sunday night.

Colleagues said they believed that the gunmen panicked when they saw Mr Baker walking towards them. Other reports suggested he did not understand the command to lie on the ground and his hesitation cost him his life.

The robbers got away with 74,000 Kenyan shillings, about £740. Mr Baker had recently moved to Kenya as the London-based agency's assistant Africa director.

His wife, from whom he is separated, and his four sons, who are all over 16, were told of his death yesterday. He joined ActionAid in 1989 and worked in Mozambique. Mr Baker later moved to Malawi, where his involvement in ActionAid's Seeds Programme ensured the survival of more than one million families during one of its worst droughts.

In 1994 he led emergency work in Goma among Rwandan refugees forced into Zaire. Two years later, Mr Baker was appointed director of the

organisation's Burundi operation, which was commended for its success in peace building and reconciliation.

He was appointed assistant director for Africa two months ago. ActionAid said the post capitalised on his knowledge of the region. "He'll leave a huge gap as a colleague and a friend," Colin Williams, ActionAid's Africa director, said yesterday. "He was really at home in Africa which is where he most wanted to be."

□ The main suspect in the murder of the British tourist Julie Ward did not appear in court in Nairobi as expected yesterday. Simon ole Makallah, a former game park warden in the Masai Mara game reserve where Ms Ward was killed ten years ago, was arrested on Friday. He is expected to appear in court shortly.



Baker: died as he went to pay at restaurant

Rider, 17, dies after fall during polo game

By A CORRESPONDENT

A TEENAGE polo player died after she was thrown from a horse during a Pony Club event. Laura Millington, 17, from Crowle, near Worcester, suffered serious neck and back injuries after falling from the horse in the nearby village of Upton Snodsbury on Sunday.

Miss Millington, described as a competent rider, and her mother had been enjoying a game of polo on a luscious horseback with the Croome Hunt Pony Club when the tragedy happened.

She was airlifted to Selly Oak Hospital, Birmingham, but died that night. Devina Cannon, a Pony Club spokeswoman, said: "She was playing in a game with her mother when she simply fell off the horse. At first it seemed like a fairly innocuous fall and everyone was just expecting her to get up but she must have landed badly."

"Laura was a member of a keen and enthusiastic Pony Club family and a competent rider. Everyone involved with the Pony Club is very very sad and upset that this should have happened." Ms Cannon said that Miss Millington's family were devastated. Her mother said: "I am so upset that I cannot speak."

Miss Millington left school last year having taken eight GCSEs, and was studying at agricultural college.

An inquest is to be opened this week.

Galliano goes off the rails in fashion fantasy

FROM GRACE BRADBERRY IN PARIS

THEY must surely be the most extravagant fashion shows ever staged.

Last season John Galliano turned the Paris Opera into the *Ballets Russes* for his Christian Dior haute couture presentation. Yesterday he sent the Orient Express bursting through a curtain of orange silk on a platform at the Gare d'Austerlitz.

Enthroned on the front was an Indian squaw and a chief. Later Princess Pocahontas appeared in a fabulous costume of diamond-patterned silk, chenille, velvet appliqué, claret taffeta, and a great blanket of needlecord velvet.

The designer's critics say it is nothing but costume drama and that he has lost touch with reality, but how much reality can there be in a world where dresses start at £20,000? And even at that price, there was less than ever to wear amid the historical pageantry. As the 33 models piled off the train (officially an *haute couture* show should feature 50 outfits), it became clear that Galliano was on his wildest trip of all.

In a bizarre historical fashion, musketeers, Tudor kings and Stuart princes left the steam train and wandered through changing scenes of squalor and railway station created on the platform.

The gold-brocaded frock coats and breeches, the enormous sculpted Indian blan-

ket coats with sign patterns, lined with 18th-century style silks, were stunning. No one, however, is likely to wear them again.

But then, no one expects wearability from Galliano. This is fashion as fantasy: ermine collars, a doekskin coat embroidered with oak leaves, butterflies and strawberries, thigh boots covered in gold Lys de France patterns.

In his four seasons at Dior, Galliano, the 35-year-old St Martin's graduate, has undoubtedly created his own silhouette, with tiny bar jackets, long narrow skirts, and elongated Masai-beaded necks.

But some of Galliano's shapes are never going to be worn, like the short coats, the hems tucked up inside with ribbons. The designer describes them as "filled with air like a Zephyr balloon". But few women want to look like a balloon, nor like the Holbein portrait of Henry VIII, which was the inspiration for another outfit.

What the Dior clients may order are the long, lean caudexes. Galliano has dubbed it the missionary line. The Renaissance silhouette could just about slip into 20th-century life.

However unreal his shows may be, some of the world's wealthiest women obviously adore Galliano. Jocelyne Wildenstein, Manhattan's most famous plastic surgery patient, was present.



On the warpath: John Galliano's latest show for Christian Dior ranged from Indian princesses to fantastic and impractical costume drama



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Trousers spare statue's blushes

A £25,000 statue to honour the pioneers of jet aircraft looked clear for take-off yesterday after a cover-up operation ordered by aerospace veterans.

The 10ft figure, called *The Aircraft Worker*, originally depicted a figure standing on a jet engine with his hands over his ears. But former aerospace workers dismissed the sculpture as "a bloke with no clothes on".

After a nine-month stand-off the sculptor Simon Stringer has added trousers to the figure and a revised model for the bronze figure has gone on display.

Gloucester City Council commissioned the project 18 months ago to commemorate local links with the aerospace industry. Sir Frank Whittle developed the jet engine at Brookworth airfield, outside Gloucester, and Gloster Aircraft Company designed and built the celebrated Meteor and Javelin jets in the city.

The first draft of the tribute angered former workers at Gloster, later absorbed by British Aerospace, when it went on show last October. Opposition was led by show host Octopus, from Hucclecote, Gloucestershire, a secretary at Gloster

from 1947 to the early 1960s. When she saw the first model she said: "This does not mean 'aircraft worker' to me. It is a bloke without any clothes on. Aircraft workers all worked in overalls." After a series of public workshops to discuss the sculpture, a pair of bib-and-trowsers overalls has been added.

A model of the revised tribute is on show at the Gloucester Museum and Art Gallery. Paul Drake, arts development officer at the council, said it was a "fine piece of work". Mr Stringer was unavailable for comment yesterday.

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It's such an important task – such a 'Big Number' – that All the Phone Companies in the UK have got together to implement the new numbering system. Not only will it generate hundreds of millions of new numbers, but The Big Number will bring sense, order and flexibility to the system for many years to come.

Similar types of numbers will be grouped together with the same prefix, enabling you to immediately recognise the type of number you're calling. Mobiles and pagers, for example, will begin with 07. (The table on the left gives you a broad view of how all the numbers will be grouped.)

The Big Question: when will The Big Number happen?

Well, some changes have already started with new mobile numbers beginning with 07. And you'll be hearing more from us about 08 and 09 over the coming weeks. The main changes will be phased between now and the year 2001, so there'll be plenty of time to prepare.

In the meantime, you'll find details of the number changes on our website which you can visit on www.numberchange.org or call our freephone helpline – 0808 22 4 2000.

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£1.5m for pilot crippled in RAF jump-jet crash

By ADAM FRESCO

A FORMER pilot in the RAF who was crippled when the engine of his Harrier jump-jet exploded as he was hovering at 100ft yesterday accepted £1.5 million damages at the High Court.

In what is thought to be the first case of its kind, Flight Lieutenant Timothy Ellison, 38, sued the Ministry of Defence for the crash that left him a paraplegic. He claimed damages for personal injury and loss, alleging that the aircraft had not been properly maintained.

The agreement was reached just minutes before the officer, who had been with the RAF for 15 years, was to enter court. The case could lead to other Forces personnel suing the MoD after an accident.

Mr Ellison, a pilot for seven years, was returning to base at RAF Wittering after a training flight in May 1992 and was preparing to land when there was an explosion in the engine leading to a total loss of thrust. The aircraft crashed with Mr Ellison still at the controls because he did not have enough time to eject.

Sitting in court in his wheelchair next to his wife, Amanda, he listened as Stephen Irwin, QC, his counsel, announced that the MoD had agreed to settle his claim for



Ellison: broke his back in five places on impact

£1.5 million after last-minute negotiations outside court. The hearing before Mr Justice Ian Kennedy took less than a minute.

After the crash, which broke his back in five places, the father of one was unconscious for two weeks. He was told he would never walk again.

Not willing to accept that his flying days were over, he travelled to America where he joined a programme designed for injured Vietnam veterans at the Big Bear Flying School near Los Angeles. His wife and son divided their time between the training centre and home in Stamford, Lincolnshire, watching as he took to the skies again in a specially adapted plane.

Mr Ellison became the first

paraplegic in the world to gain his airline transport licence, the highest civilian flying qualification, and six years after the accident he piloted his own plane 6,000 miles from America to land at RAF Wittering in Cambridgeshire, the scene of the crash. As he landed he was watched by his wife and their five-year-old son George.

He said after the settlement yesterday: "I am very glad it's all over. Of course the accident meant the end of my flying career and I am very sad about that. Now I have the opportunity to get on with the rest of my life."

"I don't know what I am going to do now, that is one of the things I am going to have to think about."

"What happened to me was a one in a million thing. I was just in the wrong place at the wrong time."

An MoD spokesman said: "Ex-Flight Lieutenant Ellison submitted a claim for compensation from ourselves claiming the accident was caused by faulty maintenance procedures which caused one of the engine compressor blades to disintegrate, thus causing engine failure."

"Liability was admitted by the MoD and since then we have been in discussion with solicitors to reach a settlement which was completed today."



The wreck of the Harrier jump-jet which crashed from 100ft as Flight Lieutenant Tim Ellison prepared to land at RAF Wittering in 1992. Below left, confined to a wheelchair and, right, on a motorcycle before the accident



NEWS IN BRIEF

Hindley plea gets legal aid

Myra Hindley has been granted legal aid to fight the decision of Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, that she must spend the rest of her life in jail. Last November Lord Bingham of Cornhill, the Lord Chief Justice, ruled that Home Secretaries had the power to make such decisions. A Court of Appeal hearing is set for October 5. Hindley, 56, has served 32 years for the murders of Lesley Ann Downey and Edward Evans. The Legal Aid Board said: "For aid to be granted there must be a reasonable case with a reasonable prospect of success."

Winding down

The BBC Radio 2 broadcaster John Dunn is to leave the early evening show he has presented for 23 years. Mr Dunn, 64, is not planning to retire. He said: "Before I get too decrepit I'd like the chance to be a real freelance broadcaster waiting for the phone to ring."

World Cup result

A carpenter from Jarrow, Tyne and Wear, was jailed for two months at Marseilles for throwing rocks at plainclothes police before England's World Cup match against Tunisia. Garry Wyatt, 30, said he acted out of self-defence when Tunisian fans attacked him.

Noises off

A dress rehearsal of *Capriccio*, starring Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, was interrupted for five minutes at Glyndebourne when an alarm clock rang continually in the audience. It was traced to the handbag of a middle-aged woman who did not realise it had gone off.

CORRECTION

Baroness Chalker of Wallasey was not (contrary to a Diary report, March 10) "kicked out" of Queen Mary and Westfield College as a student 35 years ago. She left by mutual consent due to illness. We apologise for the error and the embarrassment it has caused.

Advertising director's hard-sell message to Blair

By CAROL MIDDLEY
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

A FILM-MAKER'S latest production took the form of a full-page advertisement in a national newspaper yesterday. It read in small type: "To Tony Blair. Get rid of the BBC. Tony Kaye."

Mr Kaye, the maker of television commercials ranging from the Venus in Furs car slalom for Dunlop

TO TONY BLAIR

GET RID OF THE BBC

The Guardian advert

tyres to the convention of babies for Vauxhall cars, said he had spent £11,000 on the Guardian advertisement gladly.

He wanted to get across his belief

that the BBC was a "racist and archaic" institution — racist because it insisted on calling itself the British Broadcasting Corporation and archaic because it was steeped in tradition. Mr Kaye added that if the Prime Minister was to redirect money from the licence fee he could solve homelessness.

"A lot of what is wrong with British culture is in the signature of

the BBC," he said yesterday from St Lucia. "If we could get rid of it we could move into the next millennium a much stronger force."

Mr Kaye said he had placed the advert after hearing that Mr Blair had urged people to "adopt a homeless person". Mr Kaye did that in 1995 when he asked Roger Powell, a homeless steelworker, to become a human work of art to be entered for the Turner Prize. His

publicity stunts are well documented. He staged an exhibition where the centrepiece was a group of four Aids sufferers who took turns to recline naked on a couch surrounded by phials of their own infected blood. Visitors were encouraged to discuss the disease with them.

Both Downing Street and the BBC declined to comment.

A television presenter is suing

BBC Scotland for racial discrimination, alleging that he was sacked because he is English. Mark Souster, a presenter of *Rugby Special* in Scotland, alleges that his two-year contract was not renewed because of an anti-English bias within the corporation's Glasgow headquarters. His case is being supported by the Commission for Racial Equality. The BBC said it denied discrimination.

A greyhound's suspension system is an awesome powerhouse of four highly tuned legs.

Two rear, propelling it forward with large muscular flanks. Two forward, absorbing the power and steering the momentum created by the back two.

The principle behind controlled cornering and why the greyhound never catches the hare.

However, on the track, the hare has the distinct advantage of having four wheels that are attached to a rail.

Around the bends, the wheels are always at a 90° angle, working together as a unit, giving greater traction and control. The dog meanwhile, is forced to lean over on bends to counteract centrifugal forces. He becomes unstable, uncontrolled and all too often (ask a betting man) unstuck.

Happily, the principle behind our multilink suspension is more akin to that of the hare.

Basically, all four wheels on the Primera are forced to maintain an upright position even on the tightest bends, so the maximum amount of tyre tread is in contact with the road at all times.

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results. Less obvious perhaps is that a flatter, more responsive ride allows the driver more 'steering information' so you know precisely how your tyres are responding at every turn.

Man and machine become one uniquely swift and sure-footed animal.



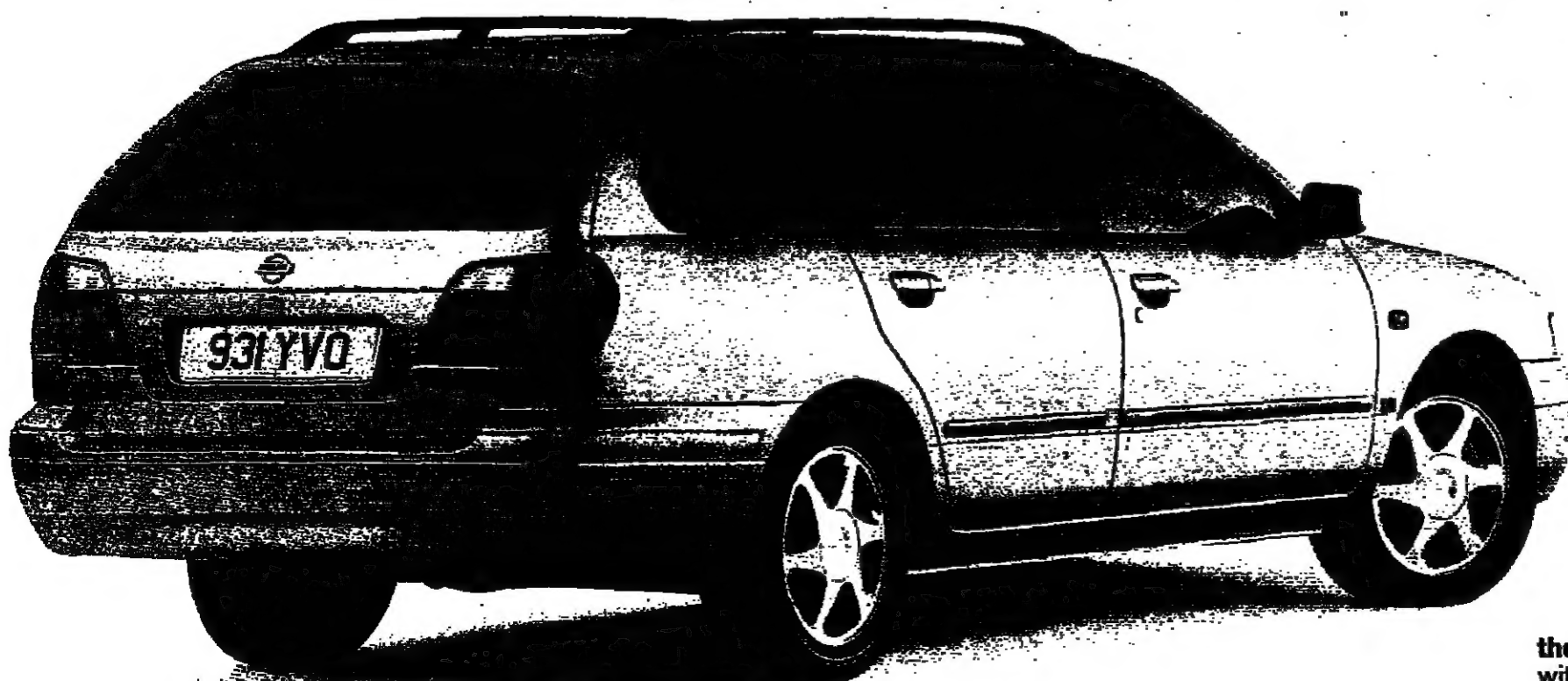
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Model featured Primera Estate SE. On the road prices range from £15,995 to £20,625. Prices and specifications correct at time of going to press. Prices include VAT, delivery, number plates, 12 months road fund licence and 625 Government First Registration Fee. Z287G



the new Primera estate with multilink suspension

NISSAN

The one series ether

How baby killer slipped through the net

Childminder kept prostitution and three children a secret from social services, writes Michael Horsnell

A SHOCKINGLY simple piece of deception enabled Helen Stacey to hide her past as a prostitute, and the fate of three of her children, from the authorities who vetted her as a childminder.

Stacey, sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of five-month-old Joseph Mackin yesterday, was granted her registration certificate in December 1996 after extensive inquiries by social workers. Police records relating to Stacey, née Helen Green, were checked and to all appearances the woman married to John Stacey, a 46-year-old Norwich Union insurance administrator, was the respectable mother of a baby.

What she omitted to tell social services about was the life of Helen Owen — the life she had tried to put behind her. In 1975 Helen Green married Mick Owen. She was 18, he was 41, and their marriage was far from conventional. In the year of their wedding he was convicted of living off his wife's immoral earnings and fined £600.

By the time they separated six years later, Helen Owen had accumulated four convictions for soliciting, for which she was fined and once spent two days in Holloway prison, and two for shoplifting.

Owen was not just a pimp but also a compulsive gambler. The couple's first daughter, now aged 21, was taken into care as a baby after they abandoned her in a car in Norwich while he spent time in a bookmakers' and she went shopping. Their second daughter, now 19, was handed over to social workers in hospital after birth. The two sisters were subsequently adopted by a family in Cornwall. Stacey's third daughter, now 17, was also handed to an adoption agency.

Mick Owen, who now lives in the Norfolk village of Loddon and who made a living driving lorries carrying sugar beet, says that the 15-year-old girl he met at a caravan café at the old market in her native Norwich was "top of the pile" at her trade.

"She was a blue-eyed blonde. She was very good at it, earning £600 a week. She took up soliciting because it was easy money and she went on the game at an early age. She spent her whole time at it."

He says that he was not surprised when he heard what had happened. "She was okay to our kid. She never did any harm. But she was always going out and about. She didn't want to stay at home. She wore smart, nice clean suits, high heels and leopard skin dresses."

The worlds of Helen Stacey and Corinne and Anthony Mackin, Joseph's parents, collided in March 1997 when they saw her name on an approved list of childminders from the same Norfolk social services department that had taken her last child into care 15 years earlier. At the time Mrs



Joseph: murdered

Mackin, 36, a former dental nurse and childminder, was completing six months maternity leave from Little Plumstead Hospital, near Norwich, where she worked as a nursing auxiliary. Her 32-year-old husband was a former RAF serviceman who became a civilian air traffic controller at RAF Coltishall. Joseph was their second child.

The couple decided they needed a second income and went to see Stacey at her neat and tidy modern, semi-detached house on the edge of North Walsham. The former Helen Owen had remarried, to John Stacey, a widower, and put her twilight trade

behind her. The couple met at the Norwich Union where Mr Stacey was involved in insurance management and she was a secretary before becoming a pensions administrator. They married in April 1990 and Stacey gave up work to stay at home with their child, Monique, who is now 22 months old.

The Staceys also needed a second income and, in advertisements she placed in the window of the newsagents in North Walsham, Stacey expressed her willingness to work long and varied hours. She had installed all the paraphernalia demanded by the National Child Minders Association and the local authority: smoke alarms, a fire blanket, safety first furniture and fittings, a stair gate as well as toys and games. To get her application accepted, Stacey had also completed pre-registration courses, including one in first aid.

On the application form to become a childminder, she filled in her married name as Stacey and gave her maiden name as Green, omitting to declare that she had been married before and had been known as Helen Owen. Social services carried out inquiries into the background of Helen Green, the daughter of a retired Post Office worker, Ivan Green, and his wife, Brenda, who still live in the semi-detached bungalow in the Norwich suburb of Hellesdon where Stacey was brought up. They saw no cause for concern.

As Helen Stacey, she was an apparently suitable mother with a respectable husband. Neither inquiry revealed that she had three other children or a chequered past. Where asked whether she had any criminal convictions, Stacey left the form blank.

Norfolk County Council social services said: "If we had had an applicant with known convictions for soliciting whose own children had been taken into care there is no way we would have registered her as a childminder. Either matter would have disqualified

her, as it states on forms sent to the applicant."

Soon after the death of baby Joseph the loophole through which Stacey was able to conceal her past was closed. After a multi-agency inquiry it was decided that applicants for a childminder's certificate would have to produce their marriage certificate, which indicates a previous marriage and enables full security checks to be made on the applicant's credentials. A medical report is also now required from the applicant's GP showing how many children she has. The latter would have shown that she suffered from severe depression.



Helen Stacey, pictured during her trial, appeared to be a respectable woman living in a house that was well equipped for child minding. Her husband, John, bottom right, was an insurance administrator. She omitted to tell social services about her life while married to Mick Owen



Parents did it by the book, but four days later son was dead

Mother believed she had done everything possible to check out Stacey, writes Michael Horsnell

JUST as Norfolk County Council concluded that Helen Stacey was a suitable childminder, the parents of Joseph Mackin decided she was an ideal carer for their son and his two-year-old sister, Samantha.

On Good Friday last year two standard contracts drawn up by the National Childminders Association were signed — one for Samantha and one for Joseph. The Mackins arranged for them to spend their first day with the woman who was to kill Joseph on May 8, bringing with them jam sandwiches, juice and yoghurt for Samantha, baby food, chocolate pudding and milk for her brother.

Joseph was a contented, chubby baby weighing 17lb who enjoyed his food and smiled at everyone. He had been expected to be born on Christmas Day in 1996 but was born five weeks prematurely on November 20 at the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital.

Two uneventful days passed in Stacey's care before he was baptised on May 11. But two days later — the fourth day of his care at Stacey's house — Joseph was to be found by his father at the point of death, his eyes rolling, his skin slate-grey, his lips blue and his little body floppy like a rag doll.

Stacey, he recalled, was wringing her hands and looking strangely nervous. He rushed the boy to his GP, Richard Young, who was unable to resuscitate him and then followed an ambulance to hospital which stopped on the way while electric shock treatment was tried.

Joseph had deep bruising round his neck, where he had been gripped by Stacey, and

devastating brain injuries. As the baby lay dying in his bouncy chair she had made a 12-minute call to a friend in hospital.

Mrs Mackin, who has been unable to return to work since she lost her baby, remembers the last time she saw him alive. He had woken for a 4am feed and nappy change.

"That morning he was fine, his usual smiling self. He was kicking about making cooing noises. He had rosy cheeks but I think that was because he was teething. I put him back to bed. I left home for work at 6.20am. Joseph was just lying in the cot, looking at his mobile. He was fine."

Before the start of the trial Mrs Mackin said: "I thought I had done everything I could to check Helen Stacey out."

Her husband said: "She doesn't want to leave Samantha alone. She has good days and bad days as we both do."

Mr Mackin maintains that the baby was content and happy when he dropped him off and gave his carer a smile upon arrival. But Stacey maintains he was grizzly throughout the day and that after lunch his breathing became "snuffy" and his eyes unfocused.

She said she did not become overly concerned until after 3pm but still thought it unnecessary to call a doctor, not least because she was expecting Mr Mackin within an hour. She claimed too that she had forgotten that she had taken the telephone numbers not only of Joseph's parents

but his GP at the Paston surgery a mile away.

The truth was that after shaking Joseph with all her force she hoped that all would be well.

Stacey had gone into childminding to be at home to care for her own daughter, Monique. She had known two other childminders and enjoyed looking after children, she later told police.

Before taking on Joseph and his sister, she had been engaged to care for two-year-old Caroline Hibbs, the daughter of an RAF serviceman and his wife. During 14 sessions with the little girl there was no hint of difficulty. Yet, at 8.20am the day after Joseph's death, she carried on as if nothing had happened.

Tracey Hibbs, Caroline's mother, said: "She seemed her normal self with no hint that there was anything wrong. We collected Caroline at 3.20pm and had coffee." Mrs Hibbs, a near neighbour of the Mackin family in North Walsham, added: "We never had any cause for concern while our daughter was in Helen Stacey's care."

Sally Body, Stacey's landlady and a close friend who is a former registered childminder, used to hand over her son Oliver for babysitting once or twice a month for a few hours over a period of two years. She said: "There was no problem with her looking after Oliver."

Michelle Holgate, a health visitor, visited Stacey twice after the death of Joseph to "comfort" her, believing that he had been the victim of sudden infant death syndrome. She said: "I felt I had to go and see if she was all right."

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The patchwork system of care

BRITAIN'S patchwork system of childcare, with provision from the voluntary, private and state sectors, is inconsistent and confusing. Some services come under the Children Act 1989 or various education Acts, others are totally unregulated.

Snatching is illegal in state-funded nursery schools and classes but legal for childminders and independent schools. Child/carer ratios vary widely. Facilities registered under the Children Act are inspected every year, while inspections under education legislation are carried out every four years.

Childminders are self-employed carers based in their own homes who look after children from babyhood to school age. Costs are negotiated individually but tend to range from £60 to £120 a week for a full-time place.

Childminders are registered and inspected by local authorities. Police records of the childminder and anyone else in her household aged 16 or over will be checked. Most local authorities will also ask for a reference from the woman's health visitor or GP and two personal references from non-relatives. Local authorities will also make their own checks. If the applicant has lived in

Alexandra Freaon on the web of provision and varied regulation

the area for less than five years, the local authority ought also to check with authorities where she lived previously.

Childminder applicants who have had a care order placed on their own children will not automatically be turned down for registration. If, for example, a woman's children have been taken into care because she was forced to go to hospital for treatment, they would not necessarily count against her. Nannies are employed by parents to look after children in their own home. They either live in or out and can cost between £100 and £350 a week.

Despite vigorous campaigning from childcare agencies and nannies themselves for a licensing system, the Government's Better Regulation Task Force vetoed the idea last week, arguing that parents must make their own judgment over whom to employ.

An pairs are employed by parents to

look after children and to help around the home. They are usually young women from overseas on time-limited visas. Au pairs, who get free food and lodging, can be paid as little as £40 a week. They are not regulated but guidelines recommend that au pairs do no more than five hours' light housework and childcare each day.

Day nurseries provide care for children while their parents work, study or are busy elsewhere. Some take babies from six weeks but many are for children aged two to five. Waiting lists can be long. Costs start at £180 a week. Sometimes local authorities will pay the fees for children deemed to be "in need".

Nurseries are registered with the local authority and are inspected annually. Pre-schools or playgroups provide play sessions for children aged about three to five. They are often set up by parents, who help to run them. Sessions are about two and a half hours long and can cost about £2.50. Playgroups are registered with local authorities.

Nursery classes and nursery schools are organised like regular schools. They can be free if run by local authorities, but often have long waiting lists. Private ones charge from £80 to £180 a week.



Corinne and Anthony Mackin: thought carer was ideal

Life can be a trial for bishops' better halves

WHILE the 800 archbishops and bishops of the Anglican communion met yesterday to debate such weighty subjects as morality and international debt, their spouses were discussing their own problems, such as how to make a bishop pick up his dirty socks.

They were told that being a bishop's wife or husband can be lonely, pressurised and stressful. Difficulties include buying clothes, travelling, entertaining on a limited budget and coping when the bishop is being criticised or put down. It could also be difficult to cope when the bishop failed to get that hoped-for move or promotion.

The 600 bishops' wives and four bishops' husbands were meeting in the Lambeth conference "spouses programme" at Kent University, Canterbury, to discuss "the role of the bishops' spouses". They were told that they should try to find a "soul friend" to share their problems. They must learn to ask for help and "to rely on God". Wives and husbands of bishops could suffer because their spouses spent so much

Spouses meet to discuss problems from dirty socks to men playing

the hostess, reports Ruth Gledhill

time doing God's work that they neglected their families.

Four of the eleven women bishops, attending the conference for the first time, brought their spouses with them to take part in the separate programme, organised by Eileen Carey, wife of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

One bishop's husband described how, when his wife was promoted, they moved to a diocese where his predecessor had a reputation as a splendid hostess and for being highly active in women's groups.

Dr Ian Jamieson, 58, an academic and husband of the Right Rev Penny Jamieson, the British-born Bishop of Dunedin in New Zealand, said one of those areas was completely closed to him because he was not a woman, and the other was partly

closed because he could not cook. However, in travelling round his wife's 75,000 sq mile diocese he was able to share in her ministry. "Privilege, that's a word I want to cling to," he said. "The bishop's spouse's life has for me been one of great privilege."

The bishop's life was often one of sharing the pain of other people's disasters and tragedies, he said. A spouse could help to make that more tolerable. "Not of course that I know many of the reasons for any particular pain," he added. "As you well know there are large parts of a bishop's ministry which should not, and cannot, be explained to a spouse."

Elizabeth Appleby, wife of the Right Rev Richard Appleby, Bishop of the Northern Territory, Australia, said: "I have been an episcopal

spouse for 15 years. Some might say I am an old-fashioned bishop's wife and in a way that is true."

She said that just because the young priest or theological student the spouse married many years ago had become a bishop, that should not mean the spouse had to force themselves to fit some preordained mould of an episcopal spouse.

Being a bishop's wife could be a crown of thorns. "Some people expect bishops and their spouses to be superhuman, to cope in all situations," she said. "It can be difficult for us to know where to go for help if there is a problem."

Earlier Mrs Carey welcomed the spouses, who have their own hospitality tent at the university which is rapidly becoming the social focal point of the three-week conference.

"I pray that our time together will be an inspiration to each one of us," she said. "I pray that each one of us will find that our Christian commitment is deepened by the experience of being together and sharing with one another."



Canon Wright, who wants to appeal to MPs of all faiths

Chaplain will give Speaker a new voice

By NICHOLAS WATT, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

REFORM of the traditional Anglican prayer service that marks the start of the parliamentary day moved a step closer yesterday with the appointment of a Speaker's Chaplain who is strongly committed to ecumenicalism.

Canon Robert Wright, 49, vicar at St Mary's Church in Portsea, said that he wanted to appeal to the "variety of beliefs" among MPs "at Westminster".

Anglican prayers are held each day before the House sits even though there are MPs from many other denominations, including Catholics, Jews and Muslims.

Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, and her current chaplain, Canon Donald Gray, have been considering how to reform the prayer service. Canon Gray will present his proposals within a few weeks.

Canon Wright said last night that he could not comment on any reform until he has taken up his new post in November. But he said: "I

am very committed to ecumenicalism. It is very high up on my agenda. I am very much aware of the wide variety of beliefs among MPs."

Canon Wright, who is honorary canon of Portsmouth Cathedral and is married with two grown-up children, said that it was a great privilege to serve the Speaker. "I am very much looking forward to serving the wider community of the House of Commons," he said. The Speaker's Chaplain serves everyone who works at the Palace of Westminster.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, last night welcomed Canon Wright's appointment. "He is a very, very good chaplain. It is an excellent appointment," Dr Carey said. "He is very strong pastorally. That is one of the reasons he has been appointed."

Canon Wright will also succeed Canon Gray as Rector of St Margaret's Church, Westminster, and as Canon of Westminster Abbey.

Carey calls for new zeal to end Church's fusty image

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Archbishop of Canterbury said yesterday that he would gladly fling all his mitres in the Thames if that would help to change the Anglican Church from smelly hymn books and ornate pagentry to service, goodness, holiness and humility.

In an address to 800 archbishops and bishops at the Lambeth conference at Canterbury, Dr George Carey outlined his vision of transforming the Anglican Church.

He wants an end to a church associated in people's minds only with "unattractive services, tedious homilies, the smell of hymn books" and "the collection plate". Instead, he seeks to build a church that is an evangelistic, missionary body, a church that is unafraid to present the Christian gospel to people of all faiths and none, and is empowered by a more powerful leadership from the top.

Speaking passionately of his plans for a "more radical discipleship" in the Church of England and its 37 sister provinces worldwide, Dr Carey said criticism of the Anglican Church by Anglicans was unchristian.

Delivering the opening address at the first plenary session of the conference, he said that he and other Anglicans loved their Church. "We

must not number ourselves among those who despise her, denigrate her or speak ill of her," he said. "I am sometimes very sad when fellow Anglicans mock our Church publicly and criticise her unfairly. When we do so, we are not following our Lord."

The Archbishop praised the Anglican "middle way", the *via media* first described by Cardinal Newman before his conversion to Roman Catholicism in the last century. But he said that should never become a comprehensiveness that was "vague or woolly or is uncertain about the foundations of our faith".

Hinting strongly at the radical nature of his reforming zeal, Dr Carey went on to address the issue of church structure and leadership. "At times we can be tempted by an office dignified by the trappings of robes and ornate pagentry," he said. "I would gladly fling all my mitres in the River Thames next week if it made any difference to our ministry today."

"Some have further identified episcopacy with a lofty style of autocratic leadership," Dr Carey said. Bishops could too easily function as a barrier to the people. They could also feel marginalised.

The weakness of the current structure, which places Dr Carey as *Primus inter Pares* of the 38 primates, is that "it is not a hierarchical, monarchical form of top-down authority", he added.

But there was also a price to pay for the lack of a centralising authority in that the Church also "tends to shy away from the empowering of the other bonds of unity".

Dr Carey added that he was not seeking a role that could lead to authoritarianism or the stifling of individual conscience. But the Church must build on its heritage of doctrine, faith, liturgy and spirituality, combined with synodical government and episcopal leadership, to transform its mission and leadership.



Dr Carey: criticism of Church is unchristian

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Drinks pledge for patients

By HELEN JOHNSTONE

TRANSPLANT doctors are using a new survey to defend their policy of urging alcoholics who want liver transplants to sign an agreement that they will fight the habit.

Surgeons introduced the policy a year ago. So far 28 patients at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, have made the pledge, which comes with the promise of counselling.

According to a survey of transplant patients at the hospital in the past decade, 28 out of 59 who had alcoholic liver disease resumed drinking after their transplants and nine had become heavy drinkers. One patient, who later died, suffered alcoholic injury to his second liver.

A hospital spokeswoman said yesterday: "We want them to understand that having a new liver won't cure them if the reason for having the transplant is alcoholism. But we don't stop people from having a new liver if they do have alcoholism."

NHS faces £2.3bn bill for negligence payouts

By IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

HEALTH authorities and trusts set aside £1.3 billion to settle negligence claims in the past financial year. Cases yet to be notified could push the bill up by £1 billion.

Sir John Bourn, head of the National Audit Office, says in the NHS accounts published today that more than £300 million was paid out to meet negligence claims; a further £1 billion was set aside in contingency funds to meet claims known to be pending. The Auditor-General says that that is unlikely to be enough.

"There can be a considerable time lag between an incident occurring and a negligence claim being lodged," he adds. "Neither health authorities or NHS trusts generally made any provisions for the cost of clinical incidents which had not been reported... but which may lead to claims in future years... I estimate that outstanding liabilities relating to incidents incurred but not reported... could amount to a further £1 billion."

The growing cost of negligence claims is eating into NHS funding at a time when nearly half of health authorities and one in eight hospital trusts is in serious financial difficulties. Last year's total was 17 per cent higher than the previous year and Sir John estimates the bill could increase by about 25 per cent a year over the next five years. Claims arising from the Bristol heart surgeons' case alone could reach £40 million.

Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, is consulting widely to try to find ways of reducing the cost of litigation. He said in a recent speech that every pound spent on litigation was

one pound less available for patient care. "The best place for a lawyer in the NHS is on the operating table, not sliding around causing trouble for other people," he said.

A liabilities scheme has been introduced to help authorities and trusts to meet negligence bills. It means that they pay only the first £10,000 of any claim, 20 per cent of any award between £10,000 and £500,000, with the Health Department paying everything over that amount. However, most awards are for smaller sums.

The audit report shows the deteriorating state of NHS

funds. Forty-two out of 100 health authorities are in serious financial trouble and the number of hospital trusts with problems almost doubled from 26 to 54 over the year.

Although some trusts are in surplus, large debts are crippling others because of high interest costs. In many cases, the extra money the Government has found for the NHS in the Comprehensive Spending Review has already been spent.

Stephen Thornton, chief executive of the NHS Confederation, which represents trusts and health authorities, said the £2.3 billion total figure for clinical negligence was astonishing. "It shows the growing tendency of the public to go to law and the potential scale of the problem for the NHS."

Bringing NHS budgets back into balance would eat into the new money, he said. "Here is yet another first call for resource. It will take hundreds of millions of pounds to bring the budgets of authorities and trusts into line."

£2.5M FOR CEREBRAL PALSY VICTIM

A cerebral palsy victim was awarded £2.5 million yesterday after a health authority admitted it was to blame for leaving him permanently handicapped. Christian Townsend, 28, suffered brain damage during birth at Worcester Royal Infirmary and now needs 24-hour care. After a High Court hearing in Birmingham Pat Archer-Jones, chief executive of Worcestershire Health Authority, apologised for the grave error.



Adele Chapman demonstrating her rediscovered health in Birmingham yesterday

Girl gets taste for life after triple transplant

By HELEN JOHNSTONE

BRITAIN'S youngest triple-transplant patient, Adele Chapman, was yesterday more interested in jam doughnuts and chicken dinners than the fact that she had made medical history.

The six-year-old, from Northern Ireland, who suffered from a rare bowel disease that prevented her from eating solids for two years, was preparing to leave hospital after a pioneering operation. She had been dangerously ill in April when a donor was found enabling surgeons at Birmingham Children's Hospital to perform a bowel, liver and pancreas transplant.

Adele had waited for more than two months for a response to a donor appeal. Her saviour was another six-year-old whose organs helped to save the lives of three other children.

National Transplant Week was launched at the hospital yesterday with the announcement that the triple transplant operation on Adele, the first of its kind on a child, had been a success. She had dysmotility syndrome, which was destroying her abdominal organs and left her almost permanently confined to hospital.

She is now expected to lead a normal life and is planning to go to school in September.

Her mother, Doreen Chapman, said: "There was a time when I thought she wouldn't make it. She is now up and about and is eating well. Doughnuts were what she wanted first because they are so messy. Every day she is discovering a new taste and she is understanding everything that has happened and is happening to her."

Later this week Mrs Chapman, 35, will be taking Adele home to Co Londonderry to join her father, Colin, 40, her twin, Lyndsey, and Corina, 13, Jenny, 12, and John, 10. "We are so grateful to the donor's family and words cannot express how we feel about them," Mrs Chapman said. "We are so glad that Adele made it."

The operation was carried out by a team headed by Jean de Ville de Goyet, David Mayer and John Buckels. Deirdre Kelly, head of the hospital's liver and small bowel programme, said: "It was a technically complex operation lasting ten hours, but there have been no major medical or surgical problems."

It took Sunetra Berry a long time to decide that Chemical Engineering wasn't for her: and very little time to discover that teaching is. After five years in industry, she got her first taste of teaching in 1996 when she joined John Ruskin School in Coniston as a lab assistant. With their encouragement, she is now studying for Qualified Teacher Status and learning the job by teaching full-time in the school.

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Railway firms will be made to run as a network

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

TOUGHER regulation of the rail industry, with train companies facing heavier and more immediate fines if they fail to meet targets, was set out in the Transport White Paper.

Ministers have been frustrated over the difficulties in changing regulation of the industry, which is largely bound by franchise agreements made under the last Government. The document voices the frustration by saying there is little "practical scope" for altering the regulations in the short term. However, as the 25 train operating franchises come up for renewal — the first in 2003 — "we will expect to see... more demanding performance standards for train operators and arrangements which enable passengers to hold operators to account for the services they run".

John Prescott has previously voiced his dismay that penalties imposed on operators have been subject to a "cooling off" period during which a train company can show improvements and escape penalty. In a separate paper published on regulation of the rail industry, Mr Prescott said that the new Strategic Rail Authority "must be able to move quickly to demand remedial action when a service deteriorates and impose swift and effective penalties for serious failures".

Mr Prescott was angered last year when South West Trains, which runs services from London into southern England, was forced to cancel thousands of trains after laying off drivers, but the penalty was only a fraction of the state subsidy the company received.

The new authority, which requires legislation, will also take on the existing functions of the British Railways Board. Mr Prescott made clear that the Government would take back into state control any franchise that consistently failed to match passenger service levels.

The changes would give regulators more "teeth" to crack down on under-per-

THE TRAINS

forming train companies and to keep a close watch on the investment programme put forward by the rail infrastructure company Railtrack. It will take over the powers of John O'Brien, the franchising director, who maintains performance standards, and will take on the consumer protection duties of John Swift, the rail regulator, who will be allowed to continue regulating matters of track and signalling.

The SRA will also ensure the railways are run as a single network and "not a collection of different businesses", and are properly integrated with other forms of transport. It would investigate further plans to develop the network, and the sale of

British Railways Board land will be suspended to determine whether any might be of potential value to the passenger or freight railway.

There may also be tougher controls on train leasing companies, to prevent them from abusing monopoly positions. However, Mr Prescott backed away from immediate action, saying that tighter regulation would be considered only if the companies fail to offer sufficient investment. The three rolling stock companies own 11,000 trains that are leased to the operators but they have been heavily criticised for failing to offer attractive rates to the train firms and for taking too long to invest.

Mr Prescott said that more crime prevention measures are to be encouraged to make train travel safer, with research showing that use of public transport use increase by more than 10 per cent, mainly in off-peak times, if travellers felt safer. A safety initiative, in which the best protected stations are given awards, has been launched to develop a system of best practice.

A £300million additional investment in railways is intended to relieve the increasingly common problem of congestion on the busiest stretches of the network.

Mr Prescott also demanded that train operators did more to encourage cycling and said that companies would be expected to provide racks on board trains and to ensure that station storage facilities were supervised.

The White Paper also held out the prospect of tax incentives to employers to offer staff alternative forms of transport to the car. Already, tax relief is offered on interest-free loans for season tickets, but a working group is investigating whether this could be extended to other employer schemes, such as providing cycle equipment, or even buying season tickets for the employee.

Libby Purves, page 18
Leading article, page 19



Prescott on the Tube yesterday: travelcards are estimated to have increased Underground use by a third

Overtaking car is the priority

Arthur Leathley on the plan to turn 'old workhorses into racehorses'

AFTER decades of neglect buses are to become crucial in the Government's plans to revolutionise public transport.

John Prescott said that a £300million investment in the bus industry would help to turn old "workhorses into racehorses" that were faster than the car and cleaner and more comfortable than their predecessors. The Deputy Prime Minister said that more bus-priority lanes would be the most immediate sign of the advantages of bus travel over the car.

The bus industry is also expected to be the greatest beneficiary of plans to set up a one-stop information service, giving details of public transport routes and timetables, by 2000.

Mr Prescott pointed to the lack of reliable information on public transport as a main obstacle to persuading motorists to give up car use.

THE BUSES

However, he said that there would also be greater incentives for people to switch to the bus, through cheaper fares and more frequent services in rural areas. National minimum concessionary bus fares for pensioners will mean at least half-price tickets.

He challenged the bus industry to produce "a bus design fit for the next century" and said that there would be an extension of "quality partnerships" between local councils and bus operators, under which subsidies were offered to ensure reliable and frequent services.

Significant scope is seen for more bus-priority lanes, together with traffic restraint measures, to allow buses to be seen as quicker than cars in busy streets. Bus lanes are also planned on some of the

busiest stretches of motorway, such as the M4 and M25 near London, and the M6 near Birmingham.

Quick and easy interchange between buses is seen as essential for public transport to begin to compete with the car. Local transport planners will consider creating better interchange facilities, with funding available and public-private partnerships encouraged.



Mr Prescott pressed bus companies to put greater investment in bus shelters, improving security and offering better protection from the weather, together with reliable, frequent services, clear timetables and information, and well-maintained public conveniences.

Bus firms are expected to co-operate in the introduction of more through-ticketing. More "travelcard" discount schemes are called for, and the capabilities of smartcard technology is being investigated. In London, unlimited travel within travelcard zones, it is estimated, had increased bus passenger miles by a fifth, with Underground use rising by a third.

Bus staff will be trained in customer care, and easy-to-use buses will improve access for elderly and disabled people and parents with young children.

Health fears put change in the air

POLLUTION

By NICK NUTTALL
ENVIRONMENT
CORRESPONDENT

ALARM over air pollution and an increase in childhood asthma has heralded yesterday's White Paper. Media images of exhaust fumes belching into the faces of babies in pushchairs, and better medical understanding of the effects, led to demands for car culture to be curbed.

At the same time, there was growing concern about global warming and the rising contribution of traffic to emissions of carbon dioxide. In 1988, road transport accounted for 17 per cent of all CO₂ emissions. By 1995, this had risen to more than 22 per cent. Without action, it was forecast that the number of vehicles would double by early next century.

Civil servants argued that legally binding agreements signed by Britain at the Kyoto environment summit last December would not be achieved unless transport emissions were reduced. Experts also pointed out that the national air quality strategy to reduce key pollutants by 2005 was at risk unless action was taken to get people out of cars and on to buses, trains and cycles.

Meanwhile, the growth of the out-of-town superstore was beginning to be seen as another social evil born by the American-style love affair with the car. Retailers and city fathers complained that traditional high streets were dying.

Decay and crime linked with the dying high street heightened the desire of the middle classes to seek sanctuary in the countryside. Forecasts began emerging two years ago that, to meet social and demographic factors, 4.4 million new homes would need to be built in the Green Belt and other rural sites, destroying wildlife habitats and beauty spots.

Doctors said that children ferried to school in cars were becoming "battery reared" and less healthy. Parents waxed lyrical about the days when they walked or cycled to school, but said they could not risk their child unless safer routes were developed.

Determination now needed to get these ideas moving

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

JOHN PRESCOTT has ventured where Jim Hacker never dared. The memorable episode of *Yes Minister* where Mr Hacker attempts to launch an integrated transport policy has been much quoted in recent months in the Department for the Environment, Transport and the Regions. The fictional initiative floundered in face of the conflicting arguments of the rail, road and environmental lobbies and fears of protests from politically sensitive constituencies, reinforced by the world-weary objections of Sir Humphrey Appleby.

The Transport White Paper shows both the attractions and pitfalls of an integrated approach. Mr Prescott made a convincing case for further action to deal with the consequences of increasing congestion, pollution and the ragged consequences of bus deregulation and rail privatisation. It is not simply a matter of being for or against cars. It is a question of balance, of both boosting public transport and discouraging car use. Indeed, the last Government inaugurated

the policy of annually raising petrol taxes faster than inflation and limiting new out-of-town shopping centres.

But the very term "integrated" conjures up the image of new controls, regulations and taxes. Someone has to pay and be regulated — and there are always likely to be more opponents of change, and higher charges, than supporters of the hope of improved bus and rail services.

Unlike his predecessors for the past 20 years, Mr Prescott has at least been willing to face these questions, but the White Paper's answers are still tentative. A lot of consultation papers are promised, but there is no indication of when legislation will be introduced. The Whitehall betting is that it will not be until the 1999-2000 session, so any radical measures are unlikely to be implemented this side of a general election. There are a number of interesting ideas for boosting bus and rail traffic, though there is the danger — inescap-

able with new Labour — of creating a new tier of bureaucracy via the proposed Commission for Integrated Transport and strategic rail authority, as well as a plethora of local consultative bodies.

Mr Prescott is not, however, afraid of new ideas — whether in raising private-sector capital for partnerships with the public sector, or with hypothecation of income. This would allow local authorities to levy charges for the use of congested roads and on workplace parking. The proceeds will be reinvested in local transport through a ring-fenced fund, though councils will read the fine print to see whether there is any corresponding cut in their Whitehall grants.

The White Paper says that such schemes may also be developed on trunk roads and motorways, either on a self-standing basis or as joint schemes with local authorities. (Mr Prescott made a point of thanking Gordon Brown for allowing the "courage" to

establish such a radical reform since the Treasury has always opposed hypothecation on principle.) The Tories did authorise detailed research into such road pricing and electronic tolling — as part of private finance schemes — but never got very far by the last election.

The White Paper shows that Labour will now consider market pricing as well as physical controls on car use. But the ultimate success of this strategy will depend on current motorists believing that standards of public transport have improved and that it is worthwhile taking journeys by bus and rail. However, Mr Prescott's reluctance to surrender public control and the resulting complicated partnership schemes — as with London Underground — may discourage much-needed investment. Yesterday was essentially a wish list of good intentions. A determined Transport Minister is now needed for full and rapid implementation.

PETER RIDDELL

Short cuts among steps for walkers

By NICK NUTTALL

PEDESTRIANS

CARS will be made to wait longer at traffic lights and pavements will be widened in many cities under measures to help pedestrians. More and better crossings and traffic-calming measures near schools and in country lanes are also proposed.

"Priority routes", in which pedestrians can reach their destinations more directly than private cars, are proposed as part of city-centre pedestrianisation schemes. The Government plans to ask 150 local authorities to submit plans in which walking will take an important role.

It is concerned about the impact of poorly maintained pavements, litter and works by gas, cable, electricity and other utility companies on the safety of pedestrians and their

enthusiasm to walk. It proposes incentive schemes, backed by penalties, that will reduce the impact of street works and coordinate them more effectively.

The White Paper cites Edinburgh as a city where pedestrians benefit from local authority measures, including pavement-widening and pedestrianisation. "In the historic Royal Mile, space for pedestrians has been increased substantially and it is closed to vehicles at the busiest times during the International Festival," the paper says.

It says that the improvements have not only enhanced safety for pedestrians and cyclists but also increased business for shops and restaurants by £26 million a year.

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Drivers must pay more or clear the roads

From crowded journeys to 2001, a space odyssey

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE CAR

A SERIES of new charges on motorists was unveiled by John Prescott yesterday as he declared that Britain's travel habits needed to change to prevent traffic on main roads grinding to a standstill.

Additional charges on motorways, workplace parking spaces, town and city centres and heavily-congested rural areas by 2001 were all signalled in the document published by the Deputy Prime Minister.

The biggest surprise was the announcement that plans for motorway tolling were being reintroduced. Gavin Strang, the Transport Minister, had ruled out such a charge for 10 years. However, the White Paper said that pilot studies need to be carried out to assess the practicalities of introducing electronic charging on motorways and dual-carriage-

way trunk roads, as well as the new charges in town centres and on workplace parking.

Ministers have been attracted by the success of motorway tolling throughout Europe, especially in France where substantial new money has led to rapid improvement and expansion of the motorway network.

The document sets out a range of plans to tackle projected increases in congestion, which is expected to affect more than one quarter of roads within ten years, against only one road in seven at present.

Ministers plan to introduce legislation within two years, allowing local authorities to introduce charges on workplace parking and on roads leading into town and city centres. However, the White Paper made clear that there

will be a "strong presumption" against allowing both charges to be introduced with-in any single authority.

Workplace parking, provided to an estimated six million employees, is the simpler charge to introduce, as councils already check on car-parking provision under the uniform business rate. The White Paper underlined that charges should be imposed both on town-centre businesses and out-of-town developments. It referred only to private workplace parking, suggesting that local authorities and hospitals might be exempt from charges.

Local councils in popular rural areas, such as the Lake District and Dartmoor, are to be encouraged to devise charging schemes that deter motorists during peak holiday months. Alternative forms of transport, especially bus services, would be paid for by the charges raised from motorists.

Experimental schemes that charge motorists for entering city centres have been tried in Britain, most recently in Bristol and Leicester. Only the provision of improved bus services, alongside charges, had a significant effect in deterring drivers.

The Treasury estimates that more than £3 billion can be raised from charging schemes. They are unlikely to start until 2001, with about £1 billion a year being raised by 2006. Workplace parking charges are expected to be the most substantial contribution.

The White Paper made clear that local authorities will not be able to use charging schemes to raise revenue for general schemes; the money must be channelled into improving transport. There will be strong guidance to the authorities, which will need Government approval for any project, on issues such as exempting the disabled and other car-dependant motorists from charges.

The crusade to curb unnecessary car use is also likely to use existing tolls, charged on the Queen Elizabeth II crossing on the M25 between Essex and Kent, to improve traffic flow on the M25. Mr Prescott told the Commons that when the current tolling franchise ends in 2001, the dropping of tolls could create a surge in traffic. Instead, money could be used for installing electronic signs limiting traffic speeds to improve flow, and signs directing traffic at congestion blackspots towards alternative railway and bus services.

Ministers are wary of introducing electronic tolling, in which roadside beacons can deduct cash sums from a "smart card" in the vehicle, until the technology is proven.



More cycle lanes will be encouraged, like this one in East London, used by Charlie Wright, a maintenance fitter, on his 11-mile journey to work

School bike sheds will regain status

Children will be taught that two wheels are better than four, reports Nick Nuttall

CYCLISTS

CHILDREN are the focus of two proposals: more "lollipop ladies" and extra cycle routes. Laws will be passed to let school crossing officers assist children below school age and adults, which they are unable to do at present. The legislation will extend the hours during which school patrol officers can work, from the current short periods in mornings and afternoons as schools open and close. Councils will be encouraged to use school patrols to improve safety at busy junctions and accident black spots.

John Prescott said after he had addressed the Commons: "If you talk to children or parents, you find you may get one [school crossing officer] on the road near to the school. But the children may have to travel across four or five roads to get to school. We want to secure safe routes, not just safe access outside the school."

Gavin Strang, the Transport Minister, said: "The legislation governing lollipop people is at the moment very restrictive. They are prevented by law

from helping people other than school children across the road." The White Paper proposes extra money to renovate cycle sheds and to make them more secure. Mr Prescott was concerned that because children's bikes were expensive, many parents would not let them ride to school for fear of theft.

He believes that encouraging children to use cycles is an important measure for combating the school run, which accounts for a fifth of commuter traffic at rush hour.

In 1971, 80 per cent of seven and eight-year-olds walked or cycled to school unaccompanied. By 1990, that had dropped to under 10 per cent, with only 4 per cent cycling. Under the

proposals, more local authority and government agency funding is to be made available for developing safer cycle routes and schemes to encourage children back to pedal power.

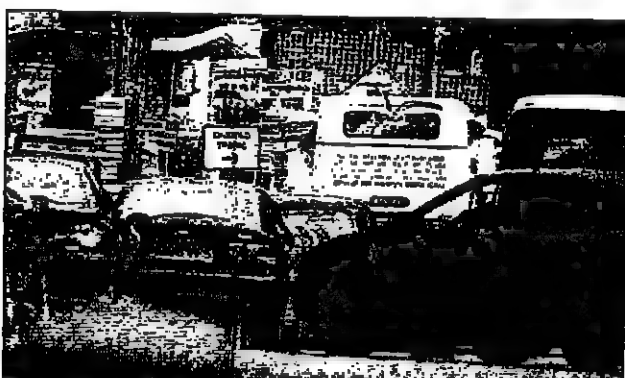
It will build on the £2 million Safe Routes to Schools initiative developed in collaboration with the cycle-network builder Sustrans. It has drawn up planning guidance for better quality cycle routes, based partly on European examples.

A School Travel Advisory Group will be set up to advise government departments and councils to help them to encourage children to walk, cycle or take the bus to school. Schemes being considered include encouraging volunteers to escort children to school each day, countering parental fears about traffic and paedophiles. The White Paper suggests the school day might be

changed to help children to avoid the busiest times for cars. National safety campaigns will give more prominence to school journeys.

The Safe Routes to Schools scheme is being piloted by ten schools. Hornedean Community School, Hampshire, which has won £100,000 from the Government, has increased cycling from 36 pupils in 1995 to 120 now. Part of the funds are going to a cycle lane on the A3 and traffic-calming measures.

Kesgrave School, Ipswich, has for many years had a 60 per cent cycle rate among pupils. A spokesman for Sustrans said: "It also has no school bus. The children cycle to sports events like soccer matches and are very fit. At Waingel's Copse School in Reading, Surrey, an estimated 55 per cent of pupils walk to school, 35 per cent cycle, 5 per cent come by bus and 5 per cent by car. Pedestrians and cyclists have their own entrances and exits. New parents are asked to walk or to cycle with their children to school in the first week, to pinpoint the safest route."



Traffic in Edinburgh: the council has examined tolls

Choices facing a city on the go

By GILLIAN HARRIS, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

DRIVERS using Edinburgh's Royal Mile have ample opportunity to appreciate their historic surroundings. The cobbled road linking the castle with the Palace of Holyroodhouse is one of the most congested in the city.

Charging motorists to enter the city centre is one suggested solution. Yet, as a £2 million study discovered in Leicester, motorists are highly resistant to charges. A £3 fee deterred only one in five from entering the centre at peak times, although a £6 fee cut car traffic by almost 40 per cent. Some motorists simply went on lengthy detours to avoid tolling equipment.

Senior figures in Edinburgh have looked closely at the Leicester experiment. The conclusion is that an electronic cordon system around the city centre, rather than a cheaper windscreen permit

scheme, is necessary to make charging effective.

In recent years, Edinburgh's transport officials have dreamed up a number of schemes to ease traffic. The Royal Mile is narrower to discourage drivers. Cars are banned from green bus lanes on the busiest arterial routes. The shopping thoroughfare, Princes Street, has become one-way for cars. Next year work is due to begin on a rapid transport system in which buses will stream in from the airport on rails before taking to the roads.

Edinburgh could become one of the first cities with a toll on roads into the centre. But first, Professor David Begg, a transport economist and convenor of the council's transport committee, wants a tram operating the length of the Royal Mile for the opening of the Scottish parliament.



The front line: sign of safety for children

Honoured member gives full support

ROAD SAFETY

By RICHARD DUCE

JOHN PRESCOTT'S decision to put lollipop men and women in the front line was welcomed last night by one of the service's most celebrated members. For 21 years, through rain and shine, Sylvia Woods dutifully chaperoned children across the road as lollipop lady to her local primary school.

Throughout her service — she became MBE last year — she remained bemused that she was not allowed to help the elderly or pre-school children across the road at Shrewton, near Salisbury. She assumed it was for insurance reasons, but Mrs Woods, 66 and now safely retired, was at liberty to confess yesterday it was a rule she gladly broke.

The empowerment of the lollipop men and women envisaged by Mr Prescott could only be a boost for road safety, she said.

"I always thought it was ridiculous that we were not allowed to see old age pensioners across the road or technically even the younger brothers and sisters of children at Shrewton primary who wanted to cross the road to get to playgroup. It will make life a lot safer for everyone."

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Netanyahu 'at risk of arrest by new court'

FROM ROSS DUNN IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL fears that its citizens and government leaders could be put on trial for war crimes over Jewish settlements in the occupied territories after the establishment of the International Criminal Court (ICC).

A United Nations conference in Rome last week voted to set up the court to prosecute war criminals for genocide and torture. The definition of war crimes included settling occupied territories, a policy that has been carried out by Israel in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights after their capture during the 1967 war.

Alan Baker, legal adviser to the Israeli Foreign Affairs Ministry, said that under the treaty establishing the court settlers or Binyamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, or a member of his Cabinet could be arrested while travelling abroad.

"This treaty does not give anyone immunity," he said. "Anybody who is involved in the decision-making connected to settling citizens in the occupied territory could be arrested under the ICC."

Because of the settlements provision, Israel voted against the establishment of the court. It said that Arab countries had

politicised the tribunal by determining that such settlements constitute war crimes.

The leader of the Israeli delegation, Eli Natan, a retired judge, told the Rome conference: "We were committed to opposition because we found no other way to express our frustration at the political statement that the conference wished to accept."

The motion approving the court was carried at the UN conference with the support of 120 nations. Israel, the United States, China and India were among the seven countries to oppose the document. Twenty abstained. The court must be ratified by at least 60 nations.

Other countries that could be affected under the settlements provision include Indonesia over East Timor, Turkey over Cyprus, China and India.

Rachel Sukar, Deputy State Attorney of Israel, said that Israel's opposition did not provide immunity for its residents. She said there was great concern that an Israeli public servant, who had acted in accordance with government policy towards the settlements, could be arrested while travelling abroad.

Mr Baker said that Israel had been one of the initiators

of the tribunal. "Israel has always supported the founding of such a body," he said. "We were one of the first countries to advocate it because of the persecution of Jews for hundreds of years. This type of court could have protected them, had it been founded 50 years earlier."

Mr Baker said that in the final days of the drafting of the treaty Syria and Egypt pushed through the article saying that settlements in occupied territories constitute war crimes. "Egypt and Syria were the spearheads of the efforts against us," Mr Baker added.

He said that last week the Egyptians toughened the language so that even those indirectly connected to establishing settlements could be charged with war crimes.

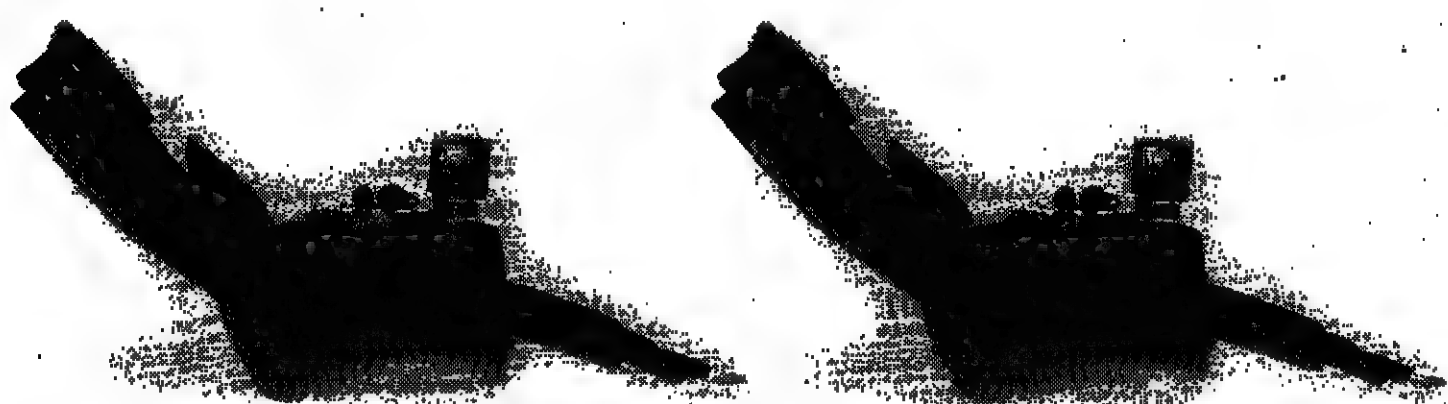
Yehudit Tayar, speaking for the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip, condemned the settlements provision in the treaty.

She said: "The Israeli Government took over the areas after a war of survival with the idea that setting up these communities will establish a security zone. ... Not only are these communities justified, they are morally correct."



Police arrest ultra-Orthodox Jews in Jerusalem yesterday. The protesters were trying to stop building work on the site of a new road where ancient graves have been found, fearing the desecration of Jewish burial places. Archaeologists have yet to determine who was buried there

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Israel on alert for Hamas suicide bombers

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

ISRAELI security forces were on maximum alert for Islamic suicide bombers yesterday to prevent any disruption of Israeli-Palestinian talks aimed at salvaging the Middle East peace process.

The alert was ordered by the Government after it was confirmed that Sunday's would-be suicide bomber — who failed to detonate a massive van bomb in the crowded heart of Jerusalem — was a member of Hamas, the militant Islamic group.

In cities, heavily armed police and soldiers, some with sniffer dogs, patrolled crowded streets and markets and appeals were broadcast for public vigilance.

"If Sunday's attack had gone ahead as planned, we could have said goodbye to the talks process once and for all," said a senior diplomat close to the negotiations. "The extremists know that, and that is why everyone is afraid that they will strike again."

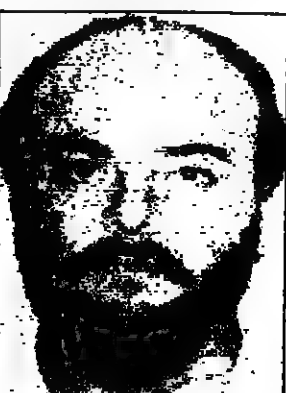
Sunday's would-be bomber, dragged out of the locked cab of his van in a ball of flames after the malfunction of a detonator, was yesterday still unconscious in hospital. Shin Bet security agents were at his bedside awaiting a chance to interrogate him.

Police gave his name as Jala Roumani, 30, a father of three children and a resident of the squalid Al-Amri refugee camp north of Ramallah in the West Bank.

After his capture, Israeli officials took the unusual step of issuing a public message of praise for help from their Palestinian counterparts.

Low-level Israeli and Palestinian committees are due to meet several times this week, and further meetings are also planned between Abu Mazen, the PLO's number two, and Yitzhak Mordechai, Israel's Defence Minister, who led Sunday night's renewed talks in Tel Aviv.

Mr Mordechai said the aim was to arrange a summit which could reach a deal on a pullback of Israeli troops from more of the West Bank.



Roumani: resident of Arab refugee camp

WORLD IN BRIEF

Aid workers pull out over Taliban row

Brussels: Afghan security forces yesterday took over the empty offices of the European Union's humanitarian aid organisation in Kabul, two days after Brussels ordered its staff out of the country because of restrictions by the Islamic Taliban regime (Charles Brenner writes). The Taliban militia moved into the office as 38 other aid groups began pulling out their staff in protest against an attempt to move all non-governmental organisations into a derelict building on the capital's outskirts.

The bodies of two kidnapped Afghan nationals working for the United Nations have been found near the eastern Afghan city of Jalalabad, which is under Taliban control, the UN said yesterday. Mohammed Nazir Habibi, 49, and Mohammed Hashim Bahsaryar, 55, were kidnapped on July 13. It is not known if they died because they were working for an aid organisation. (AP)

Papon wants France to pay

Paris: Maurice Papon, the former French civil servant convicted of complicity in crimes against humanity for his role in deporting Jews to Nazi death camps, has demanded that the Government pay his legal costs and the Fr4.6 million (£460,000) in damages awarded against him on the ground that he was working for the French State at the time (Ben Macintyre writes). His lawyer presented the damages bill, claiming that the acts committed by Papon were "indissolubly linked to his function" as secretary-general of the Gironde region under the collaborationist Vichy regime.

MP fails to quash Stasi link

Karlsruhe: A leader of the former East German Communists lost his attempt to quash a parliamentary report that found he spied for the Stasi secret police. The Federal Constitutional Court upheld key conclusions of parliament's inquiry into the past of Gregor Gysi, right, who is parliamentary leader of the Party for Democratic Socialism, the successor to the Communists. The panel found that Herr Gysi informed on dissidents whom he represented as a lawyer in former East Berlin from 1975 until at least 1986. (AP)

Ecuador names new leader

Jamil Mahuad, former Mayor of Quito and candidate for a populist centre-left party, has been declared President of Ecuador after he won more than 51 per cent of the votes in last week's election, according to official results (Gabriella Gamini writes). His opponent, Alvaro Noboa, of the right-wing Roldosista Party, with 48 per cent of the votes, refused to concede defeat. He has declared Señor Mahuad's victory "fraudulent" and unsuccessfully demanded a recount. About 10 per cent of the ballot papers were spoilt.

Moscow-Seoul row worsens

Moscow: Russian relations with South Korea took a turn for the worse when Seoul announced that it was recalling five diplomats working for its intelligence agency amid reports that it may expel a similar number of Russians from Seoul (Michael Binyon writes). Reeling from a spy scandal that led to the expulsion of a South Korean from Moscow and the arrest of a senior Russian Foreign Ministry official on charges of treason, the two countries were on the brink of cancelling an intelligence co-operation agreement.

Tabarly's body identified

Dublin: Dental checks on a body retrieved from the sea off Wales have shown it is that of Eric Tabarly, 66, the French yachtsman, who had been missing since falling overboard from his boat *Pen Duick* on June 14, police said. A French trawler discovered the body in its nets 30 miles southwest of Milford Haven on Friday and landed it later in southern Ireland. Tabarly became celebrated in 1964 when he won a solo transatlantic race. (AP)

Wedding salute backfires

Cairo: The groom was shot dead and the bride wounded at an Egyptian wedding party when one of three men shooting in the air to celebrate the occasion misfired. A bullet had become lodged in the gun, causing it to malfunction, security sources said. The 25-year-old groom was killed by stray bullets while the bride, 19, was shot in the face and her mother was hit in the arm. The three men were arrested. (Reuters)

Serbs claim victory after rebels fail to capture first town

FROM DOUGLAS HAMILTON IN MALISEVO

SERB security forces said they were in full control of the southwest Kosovo town of Orahovac yesterday, despite sporadic sniper fire from pockets of Kosovo Liberation Army guerrillas.

The Serbs drove the separatist KLA out of the centre on Sunday after two days of fighting in which the guerrillas tried to storm the police station and capture their first town in the five-month conflict. Reporters said Orahovac was sealed off on all sides by Serb and KLA roadblocks.

Nervous KLA soldiers near the guerrilla stronghold of Malisevo, ten miles north of Orahovac, said fighting was still going on and that Serbs were using artillery.

A Serb security source who refused to be identified said: "We could not let Orahovac fall, not because of its strategic importance but because of its political significance. We could not permit the KLA to take a large urban area under their control and create an unofficial separatist capital."

The town, where ethnic Albanians make up 80 per cent of the peacetime population of 20,000, is 37 miles southwest of Pristina. It is close to the southern edge of a swath of western Kosovo between Pristina and the Albanian

border which is largely under the control of KLA fighters.

Western diplomatic monitors in Pristina who were granted free access to the battle areas this month at the insistence of international mediators said it was unlikely that they would make an inspection tour of Orahovac yesterday. They planned instead to go to Belgrade to report on the fighting to ambassadors of the Big Power Contact Group — the United States, Russia, Britain, France, Germany and Italy — who are overseeing international peace efforts.

Fighting for Orahovac, and clashes between the Yugoslav Army and KLA guerrillas ambushed while trying to cross into Kosovo near Deravica in northern Albania, cost the heaviest casualties of the crisis. There was no immediate word of the fate of 40 Serbs reported to have been taken hostage in Orahovac at the weekend. Official Serb sources said that the Albanian death toll in the army's border ambushes was about 30, but Belgrade media said at least 90 uniformed KLA fighters were killed.

The Yugoslav Army displayed arms in Pristina, all of which, officers said, were captured in the border ambushes. They included machineguns, recoilless rifles, anti-tank mines and mortars. (Reuters)

□ The Hague: A broad coalition of Serbian opposition leaders yesterday called on America to take the lead in helping to end the conflict. They met Robert Gelbard, the senior US diplomat for the Balkans, for three hours of talks aimed at persuading foreign countries to broker a ceasefire. (AP)

Drums of war quell hopes of deal in Kosovo

FROM ANTHONY LOYD IN BELGRADE

AN insurgent army, failing diplomacy, nervous soldiers, the clenched-fist salutes of roadside children, pounding propaganda, contagious paranoia, secret police and a growing body count: Kosovo feels at the brink of madness that usually precedes war. On paper it is a conflict that the Serbs have already lost, but one which shall be fought anyway.

President Milosevic's Yugoslav National Army (JNA), though underpaid, ill-equipped and demoralised, remains one of Eastern Europe's most powerful armies. However, its hands will be tied in a coming war by international pressure to avoid too high a civilian death toll and stresses within Yugoslavia. Montenegro, whose conscript soldiers are fighting Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) guerrillas crossing the border from Albania, is unlikely to stand by Belgrade should these troops be used in the densely populated interior.

Even without such limitations, the demography of Kosovo alone suggests that Serbian military victory would be impossible. More than 90 per cent of its two million people are ethnic Albanians and, short of a scorched earth policy, it is hard to see how the security forces could crush a popular movement.

Ranged against Belgrade's forces are the KLA fighters. Growing by the day in numbers, strength, organisation and equipment, this force already controls more than 40 per cent of Kosovo's territory. Far from being a haphazard conglomeration of peasants, the KLA has a hardcore cadre that has evidently been established for some years.

In late February and early March this year Mr Milosevic used Interior Ministry Special Police units to wipe out two villages regarded as KLA hotbeds. But this move succeeded only in goading KLA cells elsewhere into action.

While the West bases its entire negotiating position on



An ethnic Albanian shoots at Serb police during fighting in Orahovac, Kosovo

a compromise solution involving a broad-based autonomy for the province and dealing with the Albanian moderate, Ibrahim Rugova, the drum roll towards war has accelerated over the past three months, making both the option of autonomy and the credibility of Mr Rugova obsolete. The KLA wants full independence. The Kosovans want full independence.

"The Slavs are barbarians," one Albanian doctor told me. "They do not want to live with us any more, and we do not want to live with them." When intellectuals start talking in

such a way, you know instinctively that inter-ethnic harmony is over bar the shooting.

On one hand the loss of Kosovo should herald the end for Mr Milosevic. The Serbs would be happy to blame its loss on the deeply unpopular Yugoslav President, whose disastrous economic policies have little support.

However, a KLA force invigorated by victory would prove a destabilising influence on the Albanian population in Macedonia as well as northern Albania.

Moreover, if Kosovo gains its independence, then the

Bosnian Serbs of Republika Srpska could be used by Belgrade to make similar demands, fraying the delicate threads of the Dayton peace accord in Bosnia which until now has prevented them from unification with Serbia proper.

As the summer begins to fade into autumn in Kosovo, the international community may well find itself side by side with Belgrade's strategy of ragged containment in Kosovo, sacrificing justice for pragmatism, while Mr Milosevic once again emerges with renewed prowess.

Chechen hero to tackle violence as Islamic militants stockpile arms

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN MOSCOW

IN A desperate attempt to halt the tidal wave of crime — including kidnapping and fundamentalist violence — engulfing his war-torn country, Aslan Maskhadov, the Chechen President, yesterday called up 5,000 army reservists, disbanded Islamic fighting units and appointed a notorious former guerrilla leader as, in effect, deputy commander of the armed forces.

He demoted generals held responsible for provoking a recent outbreak of fighting with armed Islamic groups that left nine people dead and 15 wounded, and threatened further expulsions of radicals from Arab countries who have infiltrated Chechnya to stir up extremist violence.

His actions came after a decrease at the weekend prolonging for another ten days the state of emergency proclaimed last month to try to halt a rapid slide into civil war. His spokesman said the crackdown against organised crime needed more time. The reservists, veterans of two years' bitter fighting against Russia, will man roadblocks and checkpoints to re-establish law and order.

Shamil Basayev, a former Prime Minister and leader of the guerrillas who stormed a Russian hospital and held dozens of patients hostage in Budennovsk in June 1995, was yesterday made commander of the republic's armed forces. His return to power may strengthen the Government, as he also heads a battalion of 200 well-trained fighters from Chechnya and neighbouring Dagestan.

President Maskhadov, a relative moderate, is fighting a losing battle to stop crime overwhelming his turbulent republic. Last week 35 violent bandits escaped from prison in Grozny, the capital, after bribing guards who also fled. Fourteen prisoners were recaptured.

The upsurge in violence will further delay the release of two British hostages, Jon James and Camilla Carr, who have spent more than a year in captivity.

Last week there was also a violent confrontation in Gudermes with Islamic radicals, who are gaining power in the Caucasian republic and have assembled a formidable arsenal of smuggled weapons.

For Mr Maskhadov, who recently spent time in Britain to drum up Western investment, the most worrying thing is this arrival of Islamic radicals from the Middle East. Most are Wahabi, the puritan sect which dominates Saudi Arabia and is intent on turning Chechnya into an Islamic republic.

Two years after the end of the fighting with Russia, Chechnya is ruined and bankrupt. Most of Grozny still lies in ruins, with many of the bombed-out buildings uninhabitable. Almost none of the money promised by Moscow for rehabilitation of the economy has been paid.

□ Plans to supply Armenia with sophisticated weaponry threaten to destabilise further the already explosive situation in the Caucasus. President Aliyev, the Azerbaijani leader, said yesterday (Richard Beston writes).

Speaking at the start of his London visit, the former KGB general called on the West to strengthen its presence in the southern Caucasus to offset "Russia's imperial policy in the region". Mr Aliyev is due to sign three multibillion-pound deals for offshore exploration today.



Maskhadov: extended state of emergency



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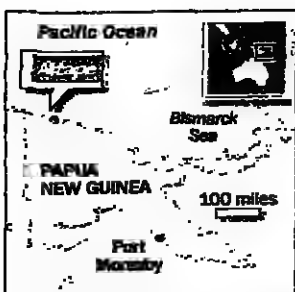
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Villagers mourn their lost children



Rescuers fear up to 3,000 might have died in Pacific tidal wave, writes

Roger Maynard

Rescuers fear that a generation of children may have been wiped out by the Papua New Guinea tidal wave, which could have killed as many as 3,000 people, it emerged last night. "Seventy per cent of the survivors are adults — most of the children are dead," Father Austin Crapp, a Franciscan missionary, said. About 10,000 people lived in the stricken areas, but rescuers and other officials said that thousands were still missing, many having fled terrified and injured into the jungle-clad mountains behind Sissano lagoon.

"What you are seeing today is just survivors, but where is everybody else?" asked John Tekwie, West Sepik's local governor. A health official asked survivors staggering into a small hospital in nearby Vanimo: "Where are the little ones? Where are the children?" Augustine Kulmana, a Catholic priest, said: "Many children have disappeared. There are a lot of injured adults coming into the hospital, but no children."

Father Crapp described the first signs of the tidal wave. High up on the hill in his Catholic mission station, he heard a faint noise like the wind. It was followed a few seconds later by a tremendous crash as the wall of water thundered across the lagoon and more than a mile into the low-lying coastal plains near Vanimo in the northwest of the country.

"Suddenly all the people were screaming, yelling, and



A Sissano girl with a rescued kitten stands beside her shattered house. Thousands were made homeless by the tidal wave and Australian Army and medical teams, right, are trying to help the countless injured survivors

ten minutes later I saw them streaming up the hill, shouting the sea has rushed straight through the village," he said. Speaking by telephone from his home, Father Crapp said the survivors of the tragedy were traumatised: "I was walking along and I found two people making a shallow grave. They were burying their 11-year-old daughter, who had been missing for the past few days."

Mr Tekwie estimated the number of fatalities at 3,000. "Many more bodies are still stuck in the debris within the mangrove swamps, within the lagoon itself, caught between the debris of the buildings, the coconut trees, all the bush, the trees that have been thrown in the lagoon," he said. Bill

Skate, the Prime Minister, who visited the area, the scene of one of the world's worst tidal wave disasters this century, almost broke down yesterday as he described the tragedy. "The situation is very bad indeed," he said. "We're finding more dead bodies now than yesterday and every minute of every hour we seem to be finding more."

Last night three Australian Hercules transport aircraft were ferrying medical supplies and personnel to the worst-hit areas, where sickness and disease pose the next big threat to human life. Many people, especially the young, are suffering from pneumonia and dysentery brought on by swallow-

ling too much water as the wave engulfed them.

"The health situation is very worrying, especially the possibility of disease breaking out," Father Crapp said. "When I walk through the villages the stench is incredible."

A fourth Hercules left Sydney's Richmond air force base last night with more military and medical personnel to help the injured and begin the massive clean-up. Colonel Keith Jobson, a defence spokesman, said: "We're aiming to get aircraft into Vanimo near one of the worst-hit areas where there are many hundreds injured and in need of urgent treatment. We're there to save lives and minimise suffering."

Alexander Downer, Australia's Foreign Minister, said the country's aid effort would extend to helping to rebuild villages as well as offering medical support. "The Australian Government will do everything it possibly can to help Papua New Guinea in this crisis and so we'll provide whatever is needed," he said.

The Pope urged the world to give prompt, effective help to survivors. A telegram of condolence signed by Cardinal Angelo Sodano, the Vatican Secretary of State, said the Pope was praying for the victims and sent his blessing to all the country's people. "He expresses hope that the international community will show its solidarity by providing prompt and effective assistance to the needy," it stated.



Chinese pledge to save giant panda by cloning

By Helen Rumble

CHINA has pledged to clone its endangered national symbol, the giant panda, by 2003. Because of the high failure rate involved in cloning, scientists from the Institute of Zoology in Beijing will attempt to save the native bear by planting the DNA of a giant panda into the fertilised egg of another animal, such as a cat or dog.

It is the first time the project has been made a priority with a deadline. However, British scientists said yesterday that cloning of cross-species would not work, and the World Wide Fund for Nature criticised the plan for diverting attention from saving the 1,000 giant pandas left in the wild.

Chen Dayuan, the project leader, is reported in the *People's Daily* yesterday as saying: "I am confident that Chinese scientists will be the first worldwide to clone a giant panda." But Dr John Gurdon, a pioneer of animal cloning at the Wellcome Trust Cancer Research Campaign Institute in Cambridge, said that cross-species cloning does not work except in rare cases of very closely related breeds.

"Its advantage would be if you were short of eggs of one species, because you would only need a few panda cells to implant into, say, hundreds of fertilised rat eggs," he said. "But the genes of one species are not compatible with the genes of another species. If you put a human nucleus into a monkey egg, it will not survive."

Poaching and deforestation has scattered small pockets of the bears in the mountains of southwestern China's Sichuan, Gansu and Shaanxi provinces. Inbreeding and a high rate of natural infertility have reduced the bear's chances of survival. Only one in ten is thought to be able to produce cubs.

About 100 are in captive breeding programmes that have also met with little success of 182 pandas born in 2005 or reserves since 1963, two-thirds have died in infancy.

Storm blows up in South Africa over top jobs for ANC trustees

FROM R.W. JOHNSON IN JOHANNESBURG

THE appointment of a leading ANC politician, Bulelani Ngcuka, as South Africa's first "super attorney-general" has created a political storm, coming as it does in rapid succession to Tito Mboweni, an ANC Cabinet minister, being made Governor of the Reserve Bank.

The principle that the holder of these posts must be rigorously independent is enshrined in the Constitution. The two men have quickly insisted they will strive to preserve that principle — Mr Ngcuka saying he will resign from the ANC immediately, and Mr Mboweni that he will resign from "all my ANC leadership positions".

This has done little to placate opposition parties, who point out that Mr Mboweni is

still making partisan political speeches and intends to remain an ANC member.

Although both are well liked and respected outside their party, the banking and the legal worlds are horrified at appointments which suggest not only a loss of independence, but an apparent disregard of professional expertise. The Government has ignored the Constitution, which says that the Bank's Governor must have banking experience, which Mr Mboweni lacks.

In the case of the super attorney-general (as the National Director of Prosecutions is popularly known), the holder should have at least ten years' experience in legal practice. Mr Ngcuka served just four months as a prosecu-

tor in 1977, and has had less than five years in practice. The appointments are symptomatic of the way the ANC thinks: its first instinct is to ensure control, thus choosing political trustees for any position.

It seems normal to ANC eyes that the Speaker of parliament still plays a leading role on the ANC national executive. Similarly, when Ivy Matsepe-Casaburri was made head of the South African Broadcasting Corporation, she announced: "I will be ANC till I die." Then, realising her post required her to be politically independent, she averred she now was — though the way the SABC became slavishly pro-ANC suggested other dynamics at work.

The legal profession was ve-

hemently opposed to the creation of a Director of National Prosecutions, for the holder will have powers to overrule the eight provincial attorneys-general.

All of this has much bearing on the coming election. The ANC has caused alarm by its open ambition to win a two-thirds majority in parliament, giving it the right to amend the Constitution. The party wishes to achieve political control over such islands of independence as the Auditor-General, the attorneys-general, the Reserve Bank Governor and the judiciary.

The Opposition is as one in resisting that, but the real question raised by recent appointments is whether the ANC is getting its way simply by personnel changes.

Indonesia to have 37 new parties

FROM PATRICIA NUNAN IN JAKARTA

INDONESIA's two largest Muslim groups are among 37 bodies planning to form political parties to contest next year's general elections.

Arusien Rais, the Muslim leader most active in the ousting of President Suharto in May, said he would set up a political party soon.

"The party is to be called Partai Amanah Bangsa or National Mandate Party. The name refers to Indonesia's independence, a mandate of the people that needs to be defended," Mr Rais was quoted as saying at a Muslim school in the East Java town of Ponorogo. Muslims comprise a majority of Indonesia's 200 million people.

Mr Rais heads the Muhammadiyah movement, Indonesia's second largest Muslim group, which claims the support of 28 million. The nation's largest Muslim group, Nahdlat Ulama, has said that it will also set up a political party.

Cuba dismisses reports of dangerously ill Castro

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

CUBAN officials dismissed yesterday a report in the *Miami Herald* that claimed Fidel Castro is suffering from a potentially fatal form of high blood pressure. The officials said that the country's ageing leader is well.

On Sunday, Miami's main daily newspaper quoted Dr Elizabeth Trujillo, a Cuban surgeon, who said she treated President Castro last October when he was in hospital with alleged symptoms of hypertensive encephalopathy, a sharp rise in blood pressure that can cause damage to the brain and partial paralysis.

Some doubt was cast on Dr Trujillo's story yesterday when the Vatican confirmed that Dr Joaquin Navarro-Valls, its chief spokesman, met Señor Castro during the days when the *Miami Herald* reported that he was in hospital. The newspaper said yesterday that, although there may be a confusion in dates, it stood by its report.



Castro: out of public view last summer

In the past there have been many false reports about Señor Castro's health, including mentions of cancer and Parkinson's disease.

Dr Trujillo's information appears to coincide with other reports of Señor Castro's poor health last summer, stemming from his uncharacteristic disappearance from public view for several weeks.

The President's ageing appearance, and his failure last year to give his traditional

speech at a celebration on July 26 of an historic rebel assault, stoked rumours of ill health that culminated in August with accounts that he had died. But such talk was quelled in October when the Cuban leader delivered a seven-hour speech before the Communist Party Congress. Señor Castro remarked that when eventually he did die nobody would believe it.

Despite the rumours, the 71-year-old President is widely regarded as being in remarkably good health for a man of his age. That is recognised even by his most implacable enemies, including the CIA, which in a report last June declared him to be relatively fit and still having a firm grip on power.

George Tenet, the CIA director, confirmed that assessment in December, telling the US Senate Select Committee on Intelligence that "Castro appears healthy... and his political position seems secure."

Dr Stuttford, page 16

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I was brought up by wolves

Misha Defonseca survived the Holocaust by fleeing into the forest and being raised by wolves. Interview by Barry Wigmore

The only time Misha Defonseca felt like a child was when she was with the wolves who cared for her. "Bathing with the wolves I had not a care in the world. Sitting in the darkness, as they rested peacefully nearby, I breathed a deep sigh of relaxation," she remembers. For five years she ate, played and cuddled her wild family, sleeping skin to skin. "If I hadn't had the animals in the forest, I would have lost my mind," she says.

Like Ivan Mishukov, the six-year-old Russian boy who ran away from home and spent three years living with a pack of dogs, Misha's story is a powerful illustration of the bond that can develop between human beings and animals.

As a seven-year-old Jewish girl in war-torn Europe, she fled into the forests to escape from the Nazis and was adopted by a family of wolves. As she criss-crossed Europe on a 3,000-mile odyssey, searching for her parents — she now assumes they perished in the death camps — the only family she knew, she says, were the wolves who adopted her. When her quest took her out of the territory of one wolf-pack, she joined another.

Now Misha has written a book about her extraordinary childhood. Called *Surviving With Wolves*, it has been translated from her native French into Italian and Japanese. An English translation in America has been retitled *Misha: A Memoir of the Holocaust*. Film rights have been optioned.

"Like many Holocaust survivors, I never wanted my story told," she says. "I preferred to forget. I didn't want to go through the anger again, all the killing. No one understands you. They really don't. You want to escape from your experiences, not relive them all the time. I wrote my story for myself and for my son, for him to read later. But word got out and I was persuaded to allow it to be published."

Misha was seven and Europe had been at war for three years when her world changed for ever. Her family lived in Belgium and as the Nazis closed in her parents asked friends to care for their daughter if anything happened to them. They had already made her blot her Jewish family name from her memory. To this day, she doesn't remember it.

"I remember my mother spoke Russian," says Misha. "Even now I sometimes sing in Russian. My father was tall and blond and could have passed as an Aryan, but he would not leave my mother." One day, Misha says, her parents didn't collect her from school. Their



Surviving with wolves: Misha Defonseca, pictured below, left as a child with a relative, was separated from her parents at the age of seven and fled to the forests to live in the wild. Below right, Misha today

friends were there instead. She never saw her mother or father again.

A little later, she heard the people who were caring for her talking about the Nazis and wondering whether it would be better to hand her over to them. That night, shortly after her seventh birthday, Misha ran away. She survived on her wits, like a rural Artful Dodger, breaking into farmhouses to steal food and clothes. Inevitably, a farmhand caught her and as she struggled free and fled, he hurled a large stone which hit her on the back. She crawled into the forest, where she lay down and howled in pain.

Suddenly, what she thought was a large, curious dog broke through the bushes and stood watching her. It was a she-wolf. "I think she was lonely," Misha says. "She adopted me. I was not afraid. We both needed help. I remember I was grateful that here was something — someone — who cared for me. No humans did." The wolf became Misha's Maman Rita.

Folklore is peppered with such stories, from Romulus and Remus to Kipling's Mowgli, and there is no way of checking how accurate Misha's memories are.

But her French publishers found that where her story could be checked, on dates and places of battles, she became embroiled in it, it was accurate. As she sits now, offer-



ing herb tea and chocolate cake in her cluttered, immaculately-clean house outside Boston, Massachusetts, it is difficult to imagine that this enthusiastic, marmalade woman has experienced the horrors she recounts. But then, it is difficult to imagine the same of so many ageing witnesses to the Holocaust. A former pet, a stuffed cobra, greets



visitors inside Misha's door. There are stuffed toy animals everywhere. Wind-chimes and hanging mobiles of animals stir in the breeze through open windows. Outside, her car is plastered with save-the-animals stickers.

"I hate emptiness," says Misha. "I feel safe with animals." Twelve cats and two dogs prowl around

her house, and eight more wild cats come and go as they please. Then there are 12 raccoons, a couple of skunks and the deer who regularly visit her to feed from her hand. Birds flutter everywhere and she calls her kitchen window sill Squirrel Boulevard. She would love to put out food for the wolves and bears who are not so far away. "But

I cannot," Misha says sadly. "The neighbours don't like that."

Her childhood memories are of a different world: of the hunter she beat with a club after he'd killed Maman Rita; of a Nazi using children as live target practice; of the German soldier she killed with a knife; and of the Ukrainian partisans she joined as a fighter. And Misha's arthritic feet and artificial hips are testament to her hardships as a child in the wild.

If there is any doubt, the photos of herself as a teenager in post-war Belgium, dressed in pencil-slim skirt, low-bustled blouse, and blonde bubble-cut hair, eliminate it. "I did whatever I had to to survive," she says. "As a teenager, for me men were prey. When I needed them, I took them. It was the law of the wild — the law of the wolves. I enjoyed men. I punched people in bars. When I met my husband, I wasn't an angel. But he was so patient and I told him everything."

Misha met Maurice Defonseca 28 years ago. He was the general manager of a Honeywell factory in France. The photos show a handsome couple, with Maurice in a dashing white suit. Today he is a gentle man with sad eyes and a soft voice. Six years her junior, he is totally devoted to the wife who says she is still inclined to punch or bite a neighbour in an argument.

"There is something of the wild in me still," she grins. "I have the social graces, but I don't trust humans like I trust animals. They're less likely to stab you in the back."

Joni Soffron, education director of the North American Wolf Foundation, believes Misha's story. At a recent sellout reading of her book at a Massachusetts sanctuary, called Wolf Hollow, visitors witnessed her affinity with the wild animals.

"When Misha finished her reading, she got down and faced the wolves," says Joni. "She put her hands around her face and let out a mellow howl. The wolves all responded. People were crying."

Misha says that in the wild she developed an acute sense of smell and hearing. They endure to this day, as does her mistrust of man. "I have been to Canada to visit a man there who has bear, a lynx and a moose who visit him," she says. "He rescues all animals. I fell in love with this man. That is what I would like, a log cabin in the woods, where I can be away from people and close to animals."

Before that, however, she wants to write another book about returning to civilisation from the wild. She thinks she will call it *Surviving With Humans*.

● Misha: A Memoir of the Holocaust is published in the US by Mount Ivy Press

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Castro's condition

There are unconfirmed reports that Fidel Castro, the President of Cuba, was admitted to hospital last October suffering from hypertensive encephalopathy (impairment to the brain's function as a result of high blood pressure). Fifty years ago, news that a 71-year-old man was in danger of having a fit, or had had one as a result of high blood pressure, would hardly have raised a medical eyebrow. In President Castro's case, the politicians would have been interested because death would have been likely within a year, but doctors wouldn't have been surprised — malignant hypertension was so common that it was an everyday problem in medical outpatients. It is a measure of the improvement in medicine that the President's setback deserves no more than a report on an inside page.

The details of his blood pressure have been sourced to Dr Elizabeth Trujillo who is quoted as saying that the President was admitted to Havana's Centre for Medical and Surgical Research and, while there, was heavily sedated. High blood pressure is initially a silent condition and its

MEDICINE CHEST

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

in consequence, induce all the signs of kidney failure, tiredness, vomiting, anaemia and swollen limbs. The cerebral circulation is also at risk. Neither headaches nor nose bleeds are an inevitable accompaniment to high blood pressure. Patients with a very high blood pressure, which is affecting the circulation to their brain, will also have dimness of vision from swelling of the retina of the eye, a stroke,

or they may have encephalopathy. In hypertensive encephalopathy the patient usually presents in a coma having had a fit but if the patient is lucky, there is no evidence of the damage which would have been caused by a stroke. The object of treatment must be to control the fits with intravenous valium and to bring down the blood pressure. It must be reduced immediately so that the patient doesn't suffer a cerebral haemorrhage, but not so quickly that they have an infarction. Loss of the blood supply to tissues as a result of an artery being blocked by a clot.

If Castro did have hypertensive encephalopathy, his future will have been greatly improved by treatment no longer die within the first year. His future will, to some extent, depend on whether he has already suffered kidney, heart or brain damage from undetected strokes. His age is on his side. Patients who are older who have hypertensive encephalopathy do better than younger ones but his sex is against him, women have a better prognosis than men.

What to put in the medicine chest, so that the 71-year-old Times reader doesn't go the same way as the Cuban President may have done? The first choice is usually diuretics or beta-blockers, or they may be combined. If there is any evidence of heart failure, ACE inhibitors which relax the blood vessels so that the blood pressure falls, may be the medication of choice. These are particularly useful in the elderly and those of Afro-Caribbean origin. Men with a benignly enlarged prostate and high blood pressure benefit from alpha-blockers, which help both at the same time.

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I adore babies but I don't think abortion should be illegal

Baroness Warnock explores the nature of goodness in her book on ethics. Interview by Jane Shilling

A strange thing about the House of Lords, I find, on presenting myself there for the first time, is how familiar it seems - the legacy, I imagine, of countless glimpses of it on the television screen. Arriving slightly early for my meeting with Baroness Warnock, I submit my bag to the security man's X-ray machine, on which he immediately detects the shadowy outline of my Swiss Army knife. Can he have a look, he asks. I hand it over, expecting it to be confiscated for the duration of my visit, but no, the inspection is for purposes of comparison only. The security man has a similar one, he says, producing it. But his, he has just realised, is fake.

Apparently unconcerned that I might use mine, he directs me to a seat from which I observe the entrance of a series of more or less elderly and decayed peers, many of them accompanied by pretty young women - teenage granddaughters, no doubt. Lady Warnock, when she appears, offers something of a contrast to these charmingly stereotypical members of the House of Lords. At 74, she is far from decayed. She is elegant, in navy skirt and white linen shirt, and moves swiftly. Her manner is not precisely formidable, but certainly brisk. You would not care, were you her pupil, to offer her anything other than your best work.

We set off at a cracking pace down the gorgeous, gold and

stained glass-embellished corridors. The walls are lined to the ceiling with bookcases, against which lean slender ladders. It is hard to imagine any of the peers I have just seen making their way up these. Presumably the Upper House employs a nimble team of librarians. "I have seen some of your writing," says Lady Warnock conversationally. "Oh!" I say, my creeping sense of being a particularly dim undergraduate about to embark on a tutorial on a subject in which she is well out of her depth intensifying alarmingly.

"I don't think only the rational can be good"

I have come to the House of Lords to talk to Lady Warnock about her latest book, *An Intelligent Person's Guide to Ethics*, about which, well in advance of publication, there has already been (not, one imagines, to her publisher's dissatisfaction) a well-publicised row. Passing the Lords' bar, we run into Lady Warnock's old friend, Lord Longford. "Hello, Frank," says Lady Warnock. "Have you seen my book?"

"Mmm," says Lord Longford, benignly. "I don't think so. It's all about abortion, isn't it, Mary?"

Oh dear. Well, no, it is not all about abortion, although that subject certainly comes up in chapter two, which addresses the ethics of birth. There are six chapters in all. The others deal with death, rights, where ethics comes from, freedom and responsibility, and the practical application of ethics.



"An Intelligent Person's Guide to Ethics is not a handbook on how to behave," says Baroness Warnock

son's Guide to Ethics is not merely as an academic philosopher, a public figure and member of the Establishment - a peeress, a former fellow of Philosophy at St Hugh's College, Oxford, Mistress of Girton College, Cambridge, and chairman of the Committee of Inquiry into Human Fertilisation and Embryology, but also as a private person, someone with tendencies to evil as well as good (she admits, with horror, to a capacity for being a bully), the mother of five children, and the widow of Sir Geoffrey Warnock, the philosopher and Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University, who died slowly and, one infers, in considerable discomfort and perhaps some dismay, from a disease of the lungs. All this gives an edge to, for example, her views on euthanasia, on the teaching of morality to children, and on abortion.

It was her brisk remark in the chapter on birth, that, "In my days as a headmistress, I more than once encouraged a 16 or 17-year-old girl to have an abortion as quickly as possible and come back to get on with her A levels" that engendered the pre-publication row. "I re-read that bit when I got the finished copy of my book," she says. "And I see I put it in rather a silly way. I sympathise enormously with people who think abortion is wrong because I so adore having babies myself, and the idea that this is a baby, potentially, does move me. But I don't think it should be illegal. I think I am unreliable on this subject because my feelings are engaged too much. But I can try and take a reasonable point of view, that one must take into account other considerations - namely, what sort of a life would this child have if it were born?"

This trenchant style of expression extends to a good many subjects that crop up during our conversation - the BBC, for example. "I am engaged by the dunning down

of the BBC. I don't see why I should pay my licence fee." Do I realise, she asks, that there are to be no more lunchtime concerts from St John's, Smiths Square, broadcast on Radio 3? "It is absolutely monstrous."

Then there is politics. Had Lady Warnock had a vote at the last election, she thinks she would have cast it for Labour. This, however, does not prevent her from launching a devastating attack in her book on the activities of spin-doctors. "The belief that in order to get elected, you have to present yourself in a particular way is just about excusable," she says. "But to continue afterwards to think that everything can become the way you, as Prime Minister, personally want, provided only that you are packaged in a particular way, is derogatory of reason. It is totally scornful of ordinary people." She sits on the cross benches and observes that cross benches have a natural tendency to oppose the party of government, whatever it may be.

The fierceness of expression is not, it turns out, only for use in public. Inquiring as to how she managed to conduct her career while raising five children ("Live-in nannies. Umm, hell for years. The whole thing depended on nobody being ill"), I wonder whether any of the children had followed their parents into academic life. No, says Lady Warnock. When the children were at school, they used to hear their parents discussing their undergraduate pupils, "and we'd say, 'he's completely illiterate, he is so stupid'." Somehow, it seemed rather to put the children off becoming philosophers. They took refuge instead in artistic tendencies.

None of this really encourages one to attempt to contradict her. But still, I nerve myself to try. The concluding chapter of her book contains some extremely interesting ideas on education and ethics. "It is," she writes, "morally imperative to treat children as morally competent. School is a place where a child, like Aristotle's young men, can practise doing what

Please dad, not the jeans

Have parents forgotten that there is a generation gap? It is time it was restored, says Bridget Harrison

It usually happens on family holidays - as it must have for the Blair children last year in France. We are talking about the grim realisation that your parents are trying to look cool.

As the Prime Minister waved to photographers outside his villa in Saint-Martin d'Oydes, one can imagine his children's secret discomfort. "No dad, not the jeans - not with that belly, that belt and those shoes."

Once, no hip wardrobe was without a pair of 50s or some sleekly fitting Leans. Now, sales of jeans are dropping rapidly. According to a report compiled by researchers AC Neilson, sales fell by more than three million last year. Why? Any self-respecting teenager knows the answer: their parents are wearing them and that is enough to destroy their cred. Who would want to wear an item of clothing whose status has been obliterated by a generation of forty-somethings? They may claim to have worn jeans all their life, but should they doggedly continue to squeeze into them despite expanding waistlines? As parents cling to the symbol of their long-gone youth, their children have realised that jeans can no longer be cool.

Few things are more excruciating than seeing people of your parents' age dressed in trendy clothes.

They do not have the shape or mannerisms to pull it off. The agony caused by embarrassingly dressed parents is best spotted in the summer check-in queues at Gatwick and Heathrow. There you will see teenagers standing slightly apart from their fussing parents, staring intently at the floor. This is to save themselves facing the too-curling sight of dad decked out in an open-necked Polo shirt, over-snug dentims and spanking white Reeboks, and mother sporting a cropped diamond T-shirt from Kookai with Gap shorts.

I have never recovered from the experience of attending a Christmas party to which my mother wore a r-a-r-a skirt. A friend refused to be collected from school in case her friends saw her mother wearing cycling shorts and a pair of wraparound Oakleys. Another heaved a sigh of relief when her mother was persuaded to relinquish the size 10 Luxe-threaded cardigan she had rashly bought from Miss Selfridge.

So how do we want our parents to look? What we actually want them to do is to recognise the generation gap and dress accordingly. We want them to look like parents.

which means people who have grown gracefully into their age and acquired a modicum of style along the way. I would rather see my father in a blazer or casual suit than the green leather baseball jacket he proudly wears at weekends. My friend, even now she has left school, begs her mother to swap her Lycra for a linen skirt.

This is not only to save us embarrassment, but to preserve the gear of the younger generation for whom it was designed. Jeans, baseball hats, cowboy boots, leather jackets, even Polo shirts, have already been lost to the uncool generation. Trainers will surely be the next to go. The shoes

Uncool: Tony Blair

that have survived years of fashion change - and that once no hipster could be without - are finally on a sales decline. Nike this month announced company losses of \$67.7 million (\$43.3 million). They may blame recession in the Far East, but trainer devotees in this country know that at large the sight of mums and dads prancing along, proudly sporting a shiny white pair of Nikes with matching "tick" socks. This alone has been enough to force British teenagers to flee back to shoes and boots.

Tracksuits, admittedly the original garb of jogging forty-somethings, may also soon die a cool death. Once parents have bought trackie bums (for those over 40: that's tracksuit bottoms) to match their sporty trainers, a generation of ravers will be forced to cast them aside, too. Or is it already too late to persuade parents to moderate their dress, especially when role models such as the Prime Minister are egging them on? Department stores, shops and markets stalls: please look up your combat trousers now.

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The ghost in the machine is human

Technology is white noise

without us, says Michael Gove

I have seen the future — and it needs more than Microsoft Works. In Idaho last week, listening to the forecasts of various technological seers, the medium occasionally usurped the message. While employees of News Corporation, the parent company of *The Times*, were being told how technology might change the planet, I was struck by the difficulty that speakers had in using their computers to change the slide display. More than one guru had to deploy interactive technology to correct the image. "Can we have the next slide, please?" they shouted to a man at the back. To see futurologists go back to basics in this way was humbling. Technology may not yet be our master, but it can be a curiously insolent slave.

The power of the voice in the age of the screen was reinforced particularly strongly during a presentation by the former Wall Street wizard Michael Milken. Mr Milken, once the pioneer of new financial instruments, is now the head of a charitable foundation in California. He was among the distinguished thinkers who had been invited to re-

view books. Having spent the afternoon surfing, the new lords of the Web bury their heads between quarto pages.

For the *Luddites* in us all, there is a special pleasure in the knowledge that, on the far shore of the future, Jane Austen will be there to greet us. But attached as I am to the smell of morocco leather, the sight of old orange Penguin on my shelves and an afternoon with a weighty Trollope on my lap, it is also important to recognise that the book — or, for that matter, the newspaper — will change dramatically in the next century. Those who love literature and who value the written word in all its forms, elevated or vulgar, must consider the vessel in which it can best navigate the turbulent waters ahead.

Romantic Tories like myself grow attached to institutions in themselves. In his essay *Rationalism in Politics*, the philosopher Michael Oakeshott argues persuasively that the practical knowledge which comes from familiarity with certain tools is the invaluable complement to the technical knowledge required to perform a task. The old is not always the obsolete.

Futurology books are items that would not have fazed Caxton

ways the obsolete and a master chef is usually better using the Sabatier he has wielded since he was a kitchen boy than the Moulinex machine which bears his title.

Yet there are times when change makes redundant even the most convenient of tools and institutions.

New generations familiarise themselves with techniques alien to their elders and leap ahead. The solicitor who has annotated his *Archbold* on criminal law over the course of a long career will have shaped an old tool to his needs. But the younger partner with access to case notes and precedents on his PC will soon trump his accumulated wisdom.

It is important, therefore, to remember what was valuable about institutions and tools in the first place, lest one become too attached to them over time. Will the book, or the newspaper, always be the best way of transmitting information?

Before very long, technology will deliver new means of transmission: computers that can be cradled in the hand as easily as any paperback or tabloid but which will have access to more things in Heaven and Earth than we have dreamed of. Faced with such change, the insight to which one should cling is the one made transparent by Mr Milken's address.

All the information in the world is useless unless it is weighed, analysed and presented with personality. Texts may not come in hand-tooled leather but they will still need to be written with style and edited judiciously. Whatever the medium, the world will listen not to a mass of data, but to those with a message.



Prescott's progress

Anyone who questions our love of the car needs courage and a thick skin

I hope the Deputy Prime Minister finds time to go and see *Godzilla*. Mr Prescott might pick up a few hints from the giant lizard: how to rampage through congested urban streets, swat aside obstructions and keep your nerve when everybody hates you.

Above all, the Transport Secretary must rapidly study the art of growing a thick, scaly skin: the kind of carapace which, so far, his political master has conspicuously lacked. *Godzilla* would not keep stopping in his terrible tracks to give bleating interviews about how he is a "pretty straight sort of guy", nor allow himself to be distracted from munching a heavy goods vehicle by an urgent bleep from Alastair Campbell to the effect that 83.2 per cent of ABC focus groups are upset about his measures to penalise four-wheel-drive school runs of less than 0.7km. *Godzilla* would stamp and roar and gnaw regardless, and so must Mr Prescott.

For the task he has set himself is harder than taxation, sterner than recession, almost as demanding as war. To reduce car usage in the UK is a necessary but almost impossible task. It strikes at the very heart of everyday life as it has come to be lived by a respectable and self-righteous majority. To wean the British out of cars — even to reduce the time we spend in them — will be the hardest thing a modern government has ever done. It will awaken the normally unseen fury of the most easily governed people: of torpid citizens who yawn and flick over the page when the Government impersonates single mothers, strug at sleaze and cannot be bothered to think about EMU. These docile citizens will turn unprecedently nasty when their personal vehicular rights are challenged.

Every barb in the book will be aimed at *Godzilla* Prescott as he inexorably moves (as he must) from persuasion to coercion. Many of those barbs will be just the kind which normally go straight to new Labour's soft underbelly and make it writhe: "Nanny state! Politics of Envy! Stalinist planning!" The Deputy Prime Minister must not show weakness; he must shake his great head and brush them off, and continue to rip with his pitiless claws at the hydrocarbon

bonds which choke us. Let him give the blindest sign that he would like to be seen as a lovable kitten instead, and his crusade will be doomed.

Which would be a pity, because it is a good crusade. Our roads are among the most congested in Europe, and everyone suffers. In cities, the unchallenged priority given to cars makes life more dangerous and antisocial than is reasonable in an affluent democracy. The countryside suffers new roads like the tendrils of dry rot; small-town communities are starved out of existence by monstrous malls. Wherever you live, the chances are that your life is degraded in some way by cars. And if yours is not then your children's is, or will be.

But of course, what degrades life is other people's cars, clogging the roads up and taking the parking spaces and spewing out fumes. Your own car is a bringer of joy. It is a restful, protective cocoon of lovely engineering and private comfort; a suit of armour, a rolling home. One flick of your finger and cool or warm breezes blow gently round you; another flick and music eases you. It smoothly obeys when you turn the key, and may even purr a caring reminder to put your belt on. It loves you! It looks after you! Sometimes, emerging from some hell-train three hours late at Ipswich station, or plodding across an airport car park after a day of frustration and bad air, I have pointed the remote control key at my dear Metro from yards away, just for the pleasure of seeing it wink its lights in loyal greeting. Once in the car, I am captain of my soul and mistress of my fate, not dependent on anybody else's incompetent management or industrial unrest.

My own trips to work are a hybrid of car, train and tube: experience of all three makes it perfectly clear why

so many business people choose to stay in their private bubble of territory all the way to the corporate car park, and will howl with pain when Mr Prescott taxes it more heavily. And even someone who can still — just about — shop in a high street shares the insane temptation to get into a nice, comfy Saab and drive 170 miles in order to buy two garden chairs and a bathmat. I admit it: *at the IKEA* ago. As for the school runs which Mr Prescott is also targeting, there is a regrettable but undeniable advantage in being able to hurt a certain dilatory type of child into the car before it has finished gnawing its Pop-art or putting on its trainers. Yes, cars are tempting.

Moreover, public transport, once used as a matter of course by almost everybody, has not only deteriorated in quality and convenience but has come to be seen as a shameful last resort, suitable only for those marginalised classes — the very young, the very old, the very poor — who can't drive cars. And since the young, the old, and the poor do not have loud voices in politics, public transport will get no better without very firm centralist action indeed. This issue was shamefully dodged during the years of the Thatcher Government, some say because the Prime Minister herself had an instinctive dislike of public transport: cars, after all, beautifully represent "individuals and their families", while buses and trains represent "society".

The result was the starvation of the railways, and then their cynical and less than efficient privatisation; also the chaotic deregulation of bus services, resulting in their virtual disappearance from many rural areas and the fact that you can now stand in Oxford city centre and watch five different kinds of bus go by in ten minutes, all more or less empty. Nor has there

ever been any serious attempt to integrate the different kinds of transport: bus depots are still long walks away from railway stations, cycle lanes scarce and dangerous, and commuter parking at stations is either non-existent or expensive. If I travel on business from Suffolk to Greenwich, for instance, quite apart from the high rail fares, it is actually a pound cheaper to park in the London borough, near the *Curtis* Sark, than to leave the car in the cheerless surroundings of suburban Ipswich.

An integrated transport policy is going to have to reach far and wide, coercing and persuading. Taxing workplace parking spaces is a start, but a real *Godzilla* would have whacked a decent tax on out-of-town retail parking as well. Nagging mothers about the school run is useless unless you invest — and police — to ensure children's safety. Photocalls with ministers on bicycles are all very well, but only really innovative thinking will bring ordinary commuters on to two wheels (like the Dutch system, now being piloted, of transparent tubes in which giant fans give the happy cyclist a permanent tailwind).

Most of all, though, it is important that the Government keeps its nerve. There will have to be careful and humane consideration given to those who genuinely cannot manage their lives without frequent car use: especially in rural areas, or where there is disability or difficult working hours. And of course the carrot must be put before the stick, and a tighter (even nannysish) grasp taken on those who run public transport. But even after all that, it will be Mr Prescott's unenviable duty to impose certain petty inconveniences and costs on the rest of us; and put up with our grumbling.

The price may be his own permanent unpopularity. But the reward is great. More sensible use of the roads — and more vigorous use of the feet and pedals — would result in a happier, safer, healthier, more relaxed populace, and probably a fall in crime. Cars sparingly used are a blessing: cars overused are a source of pollution and neurosis and alienation and despair. The stakes are very high. To play them well will take nerve.

Libby Purves

It won't do, Sir Richard

Sue Cameron says Whitehall needs a Gladstonian reform

The Prime Minister has ordered Sir Richard Wilson, Cabinet Secretary and the highest civil servant in the land, to have a second go at drawing up a set of rules for dealing with lobbyists.

It is not often that Cabinet Secretaries have their proposals thrown back at them. It seems that on this occasion, Tony Blair felt Sir Richard's attempt was not sufficiently clear cut. He wanted something more specific.

Sir Richard's task is not enviable. He is charged with restoring Whitehall's reputation for integrity and impartiality — a reputation which has lasted almost 150 years — at a time when his political masters are busily stuffing the government machine with their cronies. (An unkind word, which belies the fact that many Blairite political appointees are talented people. But they have not won their posts through open competition, and therein lies the difficulty.)

His initial plan was to remind all special advisers — a euphemism for political appointees — that they are subject to the same code as other civil servants. Article Five of that code says: "Civil servants should... give honest and impartial advice to ministers, without fear or favour..."

The idea that party political appointees will act without fear or favour is, to borrow a term currently in use at No 10, *c'mp*. All current political advisers favour the Labour Party. And it is only to be expected that they will try to help those outside Whitehall who also favour the Labour Party, despite Article Eight of the code.

This bans civil servants from misusing their official positions or information acquired in the course of their duties "to further their private interests or those of others".

The weakness of the code when applied to special advisers is that many will fear for their jobs if they fail to please their Labour masters. For they owe those jobs purely to political patronage. As Sir Richard tries to find a way out of this morass, he might reflect that Whitehall as we know it was born of jobbery.

The old established political families habitually batten on the public patronage — their sons, legitimate and illegitimate, their relatives and dependants of every degree, are provided for by the score. So said a memo on the civil service written for Mr Gladstone, proponent of Whitehall's great reforms in the 19th century.

Mr Gladstone and Sir Charles Trevelyan, then Permanent Secretary at the Treasury, ended Civil Service jobbery by insisting that appointments should depend not on friends in high places but on merit. They brought in a system of open competitive examinations, supervised independently of politicians. The result was that the public knew civil servants were not in the pocket of any vested political or commercial interest.

Now an influx of outsiders into Whitehall, begun 20 years ago but stepped up by the Blairites, is eroding those standards. Today nobody can be sure that policy is not being swayed by a payment to the Labour Party, or one of the Government's pet projects or to an influential lobbyist.

So far the focus has been on the lobbyists. There have been calls for commercial lobbying companies to be registered, for a ban on Whitehall insiders attending lobbyists' parties. Yet in a democracy, all have a right to lobby government — even companies paid to do so. Much of what lobbyists do is based on the kind of research anyone could uncover, given the time and resources. There is nothing improper about it.

Lobbying can also help to inform ministerial decision-making, as Whitehall's existing model contract for special advisers makes clear. It gives them the task of liaising "with outside interest groups to assist the minister's own access to their contribution".

What is more, the new breed of outsiders, both political appointees and those joining the Civil Service in mid-career, have helped to breathe fresh life into a Whitehall where Cambridge-to-retirement job patterns had prevailed. But where will it stop? In 1979 there were seven political advisers. Today there are ten times as many.

One way to allay concern about their role would be to make them subject to a Civil Service Act — a device Labour considered in opposition — which could limit their numbers and make it a legal requirement that all other outsiders in Whitehall be appointed through open competition.

There is one other move Sir Richard might consider. The Act could lay down that all key appointments in Whitehall should be announced publicly by an all-party Commons select committee, which could also monitor commercial lobbying companies.

Openness is one of the best safeguards against misconduct. Sir Richard might try making lobbying easier. He could order departments to do more to help people find out what is going on in Whitehall, and how to ensure their views are heard. Then the undue influence of both lobbyists and special advisers might be reduced.

Gladstonian Whitehall reforms were bitterly contested, not least by Queen Victoria. Today the integrity of those at the top of the Civil Service is still beyond dispute. Yet if they are to preserve Whitehall from taint, clean hands will not be enough. They may need the stomach for a fight.

Short story

THAT extraordinary court battle between a Filipino madam and a retired belly-dancer that ensured Colin Moynihan inherited his half-brother's title may have inspired a role novel by a senior Tory. *The Cavelier Claim* by Lord Rawlinson is about a black American stripper who breezes into Britain unannounced to claim the handle and estate of the 16th Baron Cavelier. She declares she is the daughter of the baron's brother, but his widow denies this is possible since her brother-in-law was hardly the marrying kind. Moynihan, a former Tory minister, could not assume the title of 4th Baron Moynihan of Leeds and his seat in the Lords until a 1996 High Court judgment on his stepbrother's marital status when he died. Sir Stephen Brown ruled that Anthony Moynihan's fifth marriage, to Jinna Sablaga (pictured, with Colin) was bigamous, so Daniel, her son, could not inherit it. The peer, a bouncer who ran South Seas brothels, had still been married to Editha, his fourth wife, when he died in 1991. But Andrew, her son, was also unable to inherit because DNA showed he was not the aristocrat's offspring.

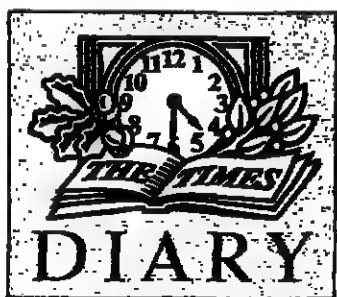
Rawlinson, Edward Heath's Attorney-General, denies that the Moynihan case was his inspiration. "It's based on the Tichborne claimant, a 19th-century case in which a man claimed to be a long-lost heir but turned out to be a butcher from Wapping." But the words of his book appear to confound his denial. When I read the blurb to a Moynihan crony, she replies: "Hmmm. Sounds familiar."



● THAT pair of lions, Michael Portillo and Peter Mandelson, were huddled in a corner of No 10's Cabinet Room last week. What black arts were they practising? A television interview, apparently, for Portillo's programme about the Tory party. "They got on extraordinarily well," I am told. "Perhaps they have a lot in common."

Poor box

A CABAL of Tory grandees are plotting to reward their sacked colleagues, turfed out last year, with a



Christmas pensioners' bonus. A former Cabinet minister, John MacGregor, MP (remember him?) has asked former MPs to provide hard-luck stories about their dismal attempts to find work since the rout. The trials of Derek Conway, the former whip turned Cats Protection League councillor, and David Nicholson, now a junior Commons researcher, will be added to the dossier.

"The difficulties of re-establishing a career elsewhere," says MacGregor, will help him to suggest a "shopping list of possible improvements" which will ideally take the form of bundles of cash in brown envelopes — sorry, pensions. MacGregor urges Tories to put pride aside and admit they are failures: "It may just conceivably be in your interests," he says, eyes glinting.

● LIBERAL MPs like a bit of fancy dress, so no surprise to find Nigel Jones (pictured with friends) imitating W.G. Grace at a Cheltenham cricket match. Unfortunately he

used super-strong glue to stick the false beard on top of his obligatory existing beard (he is a Liberal, remember). "It took 30 minutes to get it off, then they made me put it on again during the interval to cut a cake. I looked as if I was suffering from a runny nose and felt too ashamed to greet constituents."

In a spin

ALASTAIR CAMPBELL is to be cross-examined under oath as to just how the description "psychologically flawed" attached itself to Gordon Brown. The High Court will play host to the PM's press secretary later this week, in the latest twist in a bizarre feud involving Campbell and Rupert Allason, the novelist, conspiracist and former MP. The Court of Appeal has ordered a retrial of Allason's claim



for "malicious falsehood" against Campbell and Mirror Group Newspapers.

Although Allason lost the original case and faced a £250,000 legal bill, the judge criticised Campbell for being "less than completely open and frank." Now Rupert hopes to ram home that advantage in the rematch.

"I shall be raising the issue of whether Campbell tells the truth and testing statements attributed to him regarding the Chancellor," Allason will also quiz David Bradshaw, a former Mirror colleague of Campbell's, whom Blair's man claimed misled him. Bradshaw now works in No 10 with Campbell. Allies of the Chancellor could be forgiven for hoping the case runs and runs.

● GOLF mania has even hit the Dome. Builders there round off a day contemplating the role for history in a new century by taking driving practice in the still-empty Dome. This was inspired by Tiger Woods's 450-yard drive at Royal Birkdale. "Tiger couldn't drive it," said David Trench, chief Rawlplug at the wigwam. With little agreement about what to put inside, an indoor golf course might prove the most popular option.

Browned off

THE ELEVATION of Tina Brown, film mogul, has prompted a tirade of naive anti-British abuse



from one of the Hollywood brat-pack. Courtney Love (pictured), widow of the late rocker Kurt Cobain and now an actress, has urged the former New Yorker Editor to make a prompt return to these shores. Tina should pack up her "un-American, British, born a serf, die a serf attitude." This is America! It's not England! The animus dates to a searching portrait Brown ran of Love while Editor of *Vanity Fair*.

"If Brown enters LA, I'm going to throw her right back out," warbles the excitable Love. Miss Love needs to acquire some manners. I hereby invite her to Diary Towers — and I will give her the benefit of my knowledge.

JASPER GERARD



NO JAM TOMORROW?

An anything but integrated transport policy

How can a Government reduce traffic congestion without unfairly penalising the use of the car? Yesterday's Transport White Paper, the latest attempt to solve this puzzle, has spent months in Whitehall's slow lane caught in political contrailows. John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, must know that any politician who tries to curb motorists risks road rage. If millions of voters are not to feel aggrieved they need to see evidence that alternative public modes of transport will credibly compete with the convenience of the car. Yet despite Mr Prescott's protestations that he was not "anti-motorist", the White Paper contains too little on improving public transport, and proposes too much that could penalise drivers.

The Government is right that failure to tackle traffic congestion would be the most anti-car policy of all. Past transport policy has been based on the principle of "predict and provide": roads were built to meet projections of traffic growth. More roads simply attracted more cars — and more jams. Environmentalists yelped as the countryside disappeared under Tarmac. But drivers had little incentive to use public transport: years of trade union militancy, public sector inefficiency and under-investment in Britain's railways (and London's Tube) produced an unreliable and expensive system. Labour claimed to offer a new approach — an "integrated" transport policy — which would co-ordinate policies affecting all means of travel. It would make travelling by public transport as potentially attractive an option as using the car.

Mr Prescott's policy baggage, however, contains few carrots. Over the next three years, his department will spend an extra £1.3 billion on measures to improve travel by bus, rail and bicycle. This will pay for a medley of well-meaning palliatives (like a single telephone help-line for all bus and train inquiries, and guaranteed half-price travel for pensioners on all buses). But such

interventions amount to no more than a hillock of band-aids. If travelling by public transport is to be made less of a headache for commuters then the answer is not gently tranquillising doses of public money but the stimulus of private enterprise. Ministers are relying on "public-private partnership" to increase investment in the London Underground. But why should the system not be fully privatised? The Government hopes that rail operators will risk investing more in the railways. But private companies are reluctant to invest more when the lifetime of their franchises is short and their renewal uncertain. Public transport needs both entrepreneurs who are allowed to be enterprising and more input from the Treasury. Because the Chancellor will only make a little portion of his money available for public transport, the private motorist must shoulder the burden.

Mr Prescott claimed that his White Paper is "good news for the motorist". It is not. Road users already contribute about £30 billion in taxes each year. Under Mr Prescott's proposals they would pay even more — for driving on motorways and in congested city centres, for parking at work, for visiting beauty spots. The proceeds of these taxes would be earmarked for spending on public transport. But taxes come first, dividends later. Without prior improvement in the buses or railways, these proposals will be greeted with hostility. The average weekly shopping for a family of four weighs 80 pounds: unless there is a guaranteed door-to-door bus or delivery service, shopping by car will remain the practical option. Until parents can count on a safe and punctual school bus, the school run will continue to create a fifth of urban congestion. And until trains are cheaper and more reliable, people will prefer to brave motorway traffic jams. Mr Prescott wills the benign end — as who does not? But he has yet to demonstrate that where there's a will, there's a way.

PIPE DREAMS OF PEACE

Only tough decisions will bring peace to Colombia

Celebrating national independence yesterday, Colombians were in sanguine mood. President-elect Andres Pastrana is exploiting that window of opportunity which opens in the country every four years — the people's enthusiasm for a new face in Government — by initiating a bold peace offensive. A nation made cynical by corruption now dares to hope for a ceasefire to end a 34-year civil war and offer the possibility of economic renewal. But before any peace deal can be struck a compromise must be made between Marxist guerrillas' demands for reform and the free market principles of Mr Pastrana while appeasing powerful military and paramilitary organisations.

When Mr Pastrana was elected a month ago — breaking a 12-year grip on power by the Liberal Party — he vowed to make peace his priority. Now, still three weeks from his inauguration, he should be applauded for wasting no time in fulfilling this pledge. On July 9 he became the first Colombian president ever to hold face-to-face talks with the leader of the most disruptive guerrilla group, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). These set the stage for future negotiations by agreeing to the demilitarisation of 16,000 square miles of southern Colombia so that FARC guerrillas might gather without fear of state reprisal. Last week it was the turn of the smaller National Liberation Army (ELN). At a forum near Frankfurt, sponsored by the German bishops' conference, the ELN agreed to stop using anti-personnel mines and to participate in a national convention.

Colombia can ill afford the cost of ongoing civil conflict. From the Government's point of view, its military is torn between

protecting oil and hydro-electric installations in the north and quelling insurgency in the guerrilla dominated South where it has recently suffered bloody and humiliating defeats. As for FARC and the ELN, the malign spread of state tolerated paramilitary forces, paid for by landowners, agrobusinesses and drug cartels, threatens their traditional grass roots support.

Civilians pay the price. Impoverished villagers, suspected of guerrilla sympathies, are terrorised both by the army and by paramilitaries. Rebel organisations have turned to kidnapping and extortion to raise the funds lost through dwindling civilian support. Thirty-four years of war have cost some 35,000 lives; the conflict knocks an estimated 2 per cent off annual economic growth. Foreign investment is threatened.

And yet it may not be in the best interests of the elites to see an end to the war. The country is awash with illegal cash. The result is that politicians, from the outgoing President Samper downwards, have been accused of accepting payoffs from drug barons; senior officers in the notoriously corrupt military secure valuable equipment contracts for themselves, and hire out the services of their conscripted men. Although hopes for a ceasefire may be high, in reality progress towards it will be a protracted squabble. The first step that must be taken is a guarantee to honour any agreements to the letter. This will provide a basis of trust. Mr Pastrana, too, should push for an internationally recognised human rights accord, such as that which heralded the end of civil war in El Salvador. But only Mr Pastrana's efforts will show whether there is a genuine desire for peace in Colombia.

GRAMMAR GRABBERS

Robin Hood, Robin Hood, with his band of irregular verbs

Italian Robin Hoods are beefing up his legend. As our Rome Correspondent reported yesterday, a dozen armed men have held up the staff in a warehouse in Turin. They were armed with weapons noisier and more indiscriminate than long bows of English yew. And they knew the ancient not of Lincoln green. But they knew the ancient slogan of the people's hero. As they drove away after spending two hours loading their booty into lorries, they shouted: "We are the Robin Hoods of culture. We are stealing these to give to less fortunate Italians."

But this time their booty was neither gold nor jewels nor even bread, taken from the rich to give to the poor. It consisted of Latin and Greek dictionaries and school texts. The Loescher publishing house, specialists in academic textbooks since 1867, had more than 100,000 such books packed in crates not ready for the start of the academic term. Not ready for the start of the academic term. Not ready for the start of the academic term.

There is a mystery about this story. The mystery is not that Italian hoods should adopt as their hero Robin Hood of Locksley, or other places from Yorkshire to Sherwood that claim to be Robin's birthplace. It is true that Italy has its own native robber heroes such as Tancred, Roland and pious Aeneas whose merry men arrived in Italy himself, whose merry men arrived in Italy himself, whose merry men arrived in Italy himself. But from medieval poems to modern screenplays, Robin Hood has

become the universal archetype of the virtuous robber. He is the most popular hero in fiction. There are few lines to learn, and virile stars from Douglas Fairbanks and Errol Flynn onwards get a chance to show off their legs in tights. Robin is adaptable. In the recent version, Kevin Costner played him as a California beach-boy when the serif is up. Robinhoodism has taken stranger disguises than his trip to Turin.

The mystery lies in how the robbers intend to dispose of their loot. It will take them a long time if they are going to hark outside school gates hissing "Pssst! Anybody like a free Latin grammar?" And they may not get an enthusiastic response from everyone. For English children irregular verbs and classical paradigms are stock examples of impossible work rather than a pleasure. Scholarly students are notoriously impecunious and greedy for books. If the cultural Robin Hoods can ship their booty to Cambridge, they will find there this week scholars assembled from all over the world for the triennial meeting of Greek and Roman Societies. But these are mostly academics who are writing textbooks and compiling school dictionaries rather than wanting them. And many of their sessions are concerned not with books but with data bases, electronic journals and IT (by which they mean information technology not is, ex, id). The only cliché in this latest chapter of Robin Hood is the reaction of the Italian police. They say that they are baffled.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9QN Telephone 0171-782 5000

New thinking on how to protect the public from crime

From Sir Geoffrey Dear

Sir, Both police and public alike should be reassured by the suggestion from the Chief Constable of Surrey that private security firms could soon be working with the police to provide uniformed patrols in public places, operating (without police powers) either under police direction or, at the very least, within broad police guidelines (report, July 17). The support of the Home Secretary is welcome and timely.

The proposition flows logically from the requirements for partnership embodied in the Crime and Disorder Bill. The police have effectively ceased to patrol large areas of this country as demands on their time grow; their budgets will never increase enough to reverse that trend; and our police efforts are, rightly, more and more focused on serious crime, often involving the deployment of surveillance teams — highly successful but further depleting manpower available for patrol duties.

The Special Constabulary continues to play an invaluable part, but will never be able to provide the numbers required to assuage the cry "we never see a policeman" — an expressed fear that authority has abandoned that area. The key lies in the proper regulation of the security industry, a requirement that it has sought for years and is now long overdue.

But all this is against a much more serious background. The threat to the wellbeing and economic stability of this country from serious organised crime is great and is growing. Recommendations made by HM Inspectorate of Constabulary 18 months ago for two new approaches to the problem are only now being discussed.

Legislation is required to mirror that already enacted in the US and the Republic of Ireland, enabling courts to require a suspected racketeer to declare the source of his income or assets, or risk their confiscation.

Secondly, it only requires a change in Treasury rules to allow the police to employ professional forensic accountants to recover the proceeds of criminality — often vast fortunes — and be paid out of the money recovered rather than out of a police budget, currently a grave disincentive to police. CPS attempts to recover criminal money have so far proved to be woefully inadequate.

The existence of those two facilities would encourage the police to concentrate more successfully on the sophisticated and dangerous end of the criminal spectrum. Adequate patrol cover could be produced from elsewhere.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY DEAR
(Director, Reliance Security Services Ltd; HM Inspector of Constabulary, 1990-97)
Impney Park, Droitwich Spa, Worcestershire WR9 0BL
July 19.

From Mr Lawrence T. Roach

Sir, One can only hope that the Home Secretary was misreported when presented as welcoming the idea of the introduction of locally recruited and employed patrols to replace professional police officers. It was the disastrous failure of the system of parochial watchmen and other local watch associations to keep the peace or protect citizens which caused his illustrious predecessor, Robert Peel, to replace them with the New Police in 1829.

Mr Straw is equally misinformed if he believes that we have never had our police officers "walking up and down the street all day". That was precisely the function and duty given the New Police on their formation, and the activity which I was taught to regard as my primary function when I joined the service as a new recruit more than 100 years later.

Times may have changed but the obligation on government to provide effective and reliable protection for citizens and their property remains. Modern voters may understand the difficulty in providing that service, but that is not the same as saying that they no longer want it.

Yours faithfully,
L. T. ROACH
(Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Metropolitan Police, 1990-96)
43 Ripon Way, Borehamwood, Hertfordshire WD6 2HY
July 17.

From Ms Sybil Sharpe

Sir, It would seem that drawing inferences about innocence or guilt from a suspect's silence is not enough. Now the Association of Chief Police Officers proposes that the law should allow for proof of guilt by association

and guilt by reputation ("Police seek new laws to target crime bosses", report, July 16).

If these proposals are ever implemented — and in the current hysteria surrounding the need for crime control it seems possible that they might be — it will no longer be necessary to prove the actual commission of an offence. Guilt by assumption and inference will replace proof beyond reasonable doubt.

As the Chief Constable of Hampshire admits, these proposed changes could affect all criminals, not simply the organisers of international crime. If such "proof" were allowed, I believe it would be a short step to the total abolition of adversarial trial proceedings.

What seems to be overlooked is that factual and legally proven guilt or innocence are separate concepts as far as the criminal justice system is concerned — and for the protection of all of us they need to remain so.

Yours etc,
SYBIL SHARPE,
34 Clarendon Road,
Kenilworth,
Warwickshire CV8 1HZ
July 16.

From Mr Jack Palmer

Sir, I believe that the police sometimes exclude damning evidence because it is deemed to have been obtained illegally. In such cases the criminal gets away with his crime; other criminals are encouraged, the police are disheartened, the public feel cheated and unprotected, and the victims or surviving family feel let down.

Where evidence in a criminal case is thought to have been obtained illegally the case should be allowed to continue, with the evidence displayed to the jury. They might well be asked to consider the way it was obtained, but should weigh it just as heavily as it deserves.

Illegally obtained evidence should then be the subject of a separate inquiry, and if proved so should result in suitable punishment to the perpetrator. That would balance the different aspects of public good.

Yours sincerely,
JACK PALMER,
6 Prospect Place, Chapelhay,
Weymouth, Dorset DT4 8JY
July 16.

be for Parliament, Whitehall, the IPR, the PRCA and the Association of Professional Political Consultants to join together to provide a solution to a problem that has been ducked for 30 years or more.

Yours faithfully,
PETER L. WALKER,
President,
Institute of Public Relations,
The Old Trading House,
15 Northburgh Street, EC1V 0PR
July 16.

From Mr Richard Masters

Sir, Anthony Howard is not correct when he says today (article, "Creatures of the dark") that 40 years ago no one had even heard of a lobbyist.

In the 1950s the British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers' Association (BEAMA), for one, employed a firm of lobbyists (Clair Simmonds) with the aim of changing government policies on purchase tax and restrictive practices in the electrical industry. I doubt that Simmonds was the first of his kind.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD MASTERS (Editor,
The BEAMA Journal, 1950-65),
36 Gipsy Lane,
Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 9LR
July 14.

Biblical origins

From Ms Gillian Cohn

Sir, In answer to Roger Green (letter, July 16), it is not at all strange that the Jewish priestly caste goes back to Exodus rather than Genesis. Judaism evolved from the time of Abraham, when the Temple was not yet established, and the priestly caste, or Cohanim, dates from the time of the Exodus from Egypt.

Aaron, the brother of Moses, was the original High Priest and the progenitor of the priestly caste, of which I am one patrilineally, although, as a woman, not able to perform priestly functions. Nevertheless, I do take a modest pride in my 3,000 years of breeding.

Yours faithfully,
GILLIAN COHN,
82 Chudleigh Road,
Crumpsall, Manchester M8 4PG
July 16.

Educational first

From Mrs Jean Bullimore

Sir, How my heart leapt when I read the headline, "Infants go to the front of the class" (later editions, July 16).

At last, on the very day I retired, after over 40 years of teaching in this sector, the Government has recognised that it is at this level everything begins — learning, punctuality, good attendance, consideration for others and so much more. Nothing was ever built well without a good foundation.

Yours sincerely,
JEAN W. M. BULLIMORE,
362 Old Bedford Road,
Luton, Bedfordshire LU2 7BS
July 17.

Potential danger of living wills

From Lord McColl of Dulwich and others

Sir, The Government has finished its public consultation on the proposed reforms to the medical treatment of those with mental incapacity. As it discusses in private the proposals contained in the Green Paper, *Who Decides?*, published last December, we believe that it should not proceed with legislation making living wills legally binding on healthcare professionals.

The hospice movement, in their evidence to the select committee of the House of Lords on medical ethics in 1993, said: "We believe that the interest of patients will be best served by resisting attempts to make advance directives enforceable by statute law." We support this view.

Furthermore, we share the view upheld by that committee that progressive development and the ultimate acceptance of the notion that some treatment is inappropriate should make it unnecessary to consider the withdrawal of nutrition and hydration, except where its administration is in itself evidently burdensome to the patient.

Unless the patient is in the final stages of a terminal illness, to withdraw food and fluid is unacceptable. We hope that the Government will refrain from introducing legislative proposals which could harm vulnerable people.

Yours faithfully,
MCCOLL OF DULWICH,
TRICHARD LONDIN;
MACKAY OF CLASHFERN,
NORFOLK;
WILLIAM REES-MOGG,
House of Lords
July 20.

George Lloyd's music

From Mr Peter Marchbank

Sir, I quite agree with Edward Pearce (letter, July 13) that George Lloyd owed the BBC nothing. Nor should any composer. However, as the Senior Producer for the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra from 1977 until 1990, I can proudly claim to have broadcast ten of George's symphonies, three of his piano concertos, one of his violin concertos and to have made the orchestra available for a complete recording of his opera, *John Socran*.

Despite the lack of enthusiasm from many senior members of the BBC Music Department, at no time was there any pressure not to broadcast George's music. Indeed, I persuaded Robert Ponsonby, then Controller of Music, to include the Sixth Symphony in the 1986 Proms and we included the Ninth Symphony in the programmes for a tour of Italy. Composers, like all artists, need friends and champions and George Lloyd had many, in the persons of Edward Downes, then principal conductor, and the musicians of the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra.

Rashien is fickle and entirely unpredictable. Pierre Boulez once remarked that we can only perform music and let posterity decide whether or not it is great. Like many composers, George Lloyd had a golden youth and the Indian summer to which Mr Pearce refers: Michael Tippett would probably have claimed the same.

To my mind, far too many composers of middle years, whose music I was pleased to champion in the 1980s, are currently being neglected in favour of music that boasts a quasi-mystical content. The BBC that did so much to support the living composer, no matter what his style, has to a large extent retreated from this position. The occasional first performance is broadcast but thereafter the piece will be neglected.

The sad truth is that many composers are now writing in a style that is approachable and yet their music is not being heard. Like George Lloyd, they must go out and find conductors, orchestras, producers and even record companies to champion their cause.

Yours sincerely,
PETER MARCHBANK,
38 High Street,
Ringsend, Norfolk PE36 5JU.
peter-marchbank@lineone.net
July 15.

No resting place?

From Ms Caroline Bateman

Sir, Some time ago, I was asked by an overseas academic to be put in touch with a specialist in "resurrection" (letters, July 15, 17). I was very tempted to refer this query to Lambeth Palace but duly gave the caller details on how to contact a London expert in resurrection.

Yours faithfully,
CAROLINE BATEMAN
(Medical Examinations Officer),
University of London,
Senate House,
Malet Street, WC1E 7HU.
c.bateman@medfac.ln.ac.uk
July 17.

From Mrs Stanley Alexander

Sir, Here, in our Elmbridge Borough Council, cemeteries are dealt with in the committee called "Leisure Services" — which seems quite apt.

Yours faithfully,
MINDA ALEXANDER,
19 Templemore,
Weybridge, Surrey KT13 9PA.
stanleyalexander@btinternet.com
July 17.

Letters that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

COURT CIRCULAR

ST JAMES'S PALACE

July 20: The Prince of Wales this afternoon opened the new British Airways Corporate Headquarters at Waterside, Heathrow, Middlesex, toured the building and met members of staff.

His Royal Highness, President, The Prince of Wales Business Leaders Forum, this evening attended a sponsors' Dinner at Wrotham Park, Hertfordshire.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
July 20: The Duke of York today participated in the York Challenge Cup in aid of Children in Crisis at Wentworth Golf Club, Virginia Water, Surrey.

His Royal Highness, Patron, this evening presented the prizes at the Pro-Am Golf Classic Challenge in aid of the British Deaf Association at the Royal Automobile Club, Epsom, Surrey.

The Duke of York later presented the prizes for the York Challenge Cup at Wentworth Golf Club.

KENSINGTON PALACE
July 20: The Duke of Gloucester, President, British Consultants Bureau, this morning attended a Seminar on architecture and planning at the British Council, Central District, Hong Kong.

This afternoon His Royal Highness called upon the Deputy Secretary for Transport (Mr Kevin Ho) at the Central Government Offices.

Later The Duke of Gloucester visited the Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation (KCRC), Hung Hom Station (architects: Norman Foster, Asia).

His Royal Highness afterwards visited the Hong Kong Housing Authority Exhibition in Kowloon.

The Duchess of Gloucester this morning attended a Reception at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel given by the KELLY Support Group, which offers support to young people.

Her Royal Highness later visited the Hong Kong Academy of Performing Arts, Wanchai District.

This afternoon The Duchess of Gloucester visited the Thomas and Jessie Tam Centre for Bereavement Counselling, Education and Resources, Lai Kok Estate, Cheung Sha Wan.

This evening The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were entertained to Dinner by the Chief Executive of the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (Mr Tung Chee Hwa) at Government House.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will give a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace at 4.00.

Princess Alexandra will be present.

Prince Edward will take the salute on the opening night of the Royal Tournament, Earls Court, at 7.30.

The Princess Royal will open the Mallaig Harbour Extension Breakwater, Inverness-shire, at 1.45.

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Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Jean Picard, astronomer, La Riche, France, 1620; Paul von Reuter, founder of the news agency, Kassel, Germany, 1816; Hart Crane, poet, Gartonsville, Ohio, 1899; Ernest Hemingway, writer, Nobel laureate 1954, Oak Park, Illinois, 1899.

DEATHS: Robert Burns, poet, Dumfries, 1796; Dame Ellen Terry, actress, Hythe, 1928; Sir Herbert Barker, manipulative surgeon, Lancaster, 1950; George Macaulay Trevelyan, historian, 1924; Albert Luthuli, President of the African National Congress 1920-40, Nobel Peace laureate 1960, Stanger, South Africa, 1967; Basil Rathbone, actor, New York, 1967.

Confederate victory in the first battle of Bull Run in the American Civil War, 1861.

The Trans-Siberian railway was completed after 13 years' work, 1904.

Neil Armstrong became the first person to walk on the moon (Apollo XI mission), 1969.

Birthdays today

Professor Heather Angel, wildlife photographer, 57; Professor Frank Ashley, Dean of the Dental School, United Medical and Dental Schools of Guy's and St Thomas' Hospitals, 50; Dom Aidan Bellingham, former Head Master, Downside School, 48; Sir Nigel Brown, former honorary president, Tring Garden, 64; Sir Andrew Buchanan, Lord-Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, 61; Sir Robert Burns, diplomat, 53; Mr John Burrow, Chief Constable, Essex, 63; Dame Joyce Dawes, thoracic surgeon, 73; Sir Stephen Egerton, former diplomat, 66; Miss Burti Emechea, writer, 54; Canon Donald Gray, Speaker's Chaplain, 68; Mr Norman Jewison, film director, 72; Mr Ian Judge, theatre director, 52; Sir

Kirby Laing, former chairman, Laing Properties, 82; Mr Gerald Makone, former MP, 48; Dr Jonathan Miller, film, theatre and opera director, 64; Mr R.S. Napier, former chief executive, Redland, 51; Major-General the Duke of Norfolk, KC, 83; Bill Perrowe, actor, 70; Mr Julian Reilly, broadcaster, 63; Lieutenant-General Sir Stuart Pringle, 70; Mr Karel Reisz, film director, 72; Mr Michael St John Parker, Headmaster, Abingdon School, 57; Mr Isaac Stern, violinist, 78; Mr D.J. Trevelyan, former Principal, Mansfield College, Oxford, 69; Mr Robin Williams, actor and comedian, 40; Sir Ian Wood, chairman and managing director, John Wood Group, 50; Mr Peter Wright, former Chief Constable, South Yorkshire, 69.

Memorial service

Professor Gail Adams
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Professor Gail Adams, Chairman of the Gray Laboratory Cancer Research Trust, was held yesterday at Holy Trinity Church, Northwood. The Rev Oliver Field, Chaplain of Mount Vernon Hospital, officiated.

Sir Oliver Scott and Professor Peter Wardman, of the Gray Laboratory, read the lessons, and Professor Jack Boag gave an address. Mr Andrew Adams and Mr Richard Adams (sons), Professor George Radde, FRCS, Chief Executive of the Medical Research Council, and Professor David Bruner (representing the Director of the Department of Radiology, Columbia University, United States) paid tribute. Among others present were:

Mrs Adams (widow), Mr and Mrs Jonathan Adams, Mr and Mrs Andrew Adams, Mr and Mrs Richard Adams (daughters-in-law), Mrs Richard Adams (daughter-in-law), William Adams (grandchild), Mr and Mrs Eileen Adams (grandchildren), Mr Peter Ray (brother-in-law), Mrs Eileen Adams (sister-in-law), Mrs Lisa Mayall, Miss Denise Adams, Dr Jo Beall, Mr Charles Beall, Mr Paul Beall, and many other friends and former colleagues.

Baron Clement-Jones

The life barony conferred upon Mr Timothy Francis Clement-Jones has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baron Clement-Jones, of Clapham in the London Borough of Lambeth.

Baron Mackenzie of Framwellgate

The life barony conferred upon Mr Brian Mackenzie has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baron Mackenzie of Framwellgate, of Durham in the County of Durham.

Baroness Uddin

The life barony conferred upon Mrs Mazliza Pola Uddin has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baroness Uddin, of Bethnal Green in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

Baron Alli

The life barony conferred upon Mr Waheed Alli has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baron Alli, of Norbury in the London Borough of Croydon.

Service luncheon

RAF Club Dining Society
Mr K.P.R. Smart was the guest of honour at a luncheon of the Royal Air Force Club Dining Society held yesterday at the club. Wing Commander W.A. Beaumont presided.

Church in Wales

Investment and Brokers Diocese
Appointments
The Rev Tudor H. Jones, Vicar of Manselton to be also Rural Dean of Pender.

The Rev Richard H. Spencer, Director of Pastoral Studies, St Michael's College, Llandaff Diocese, to be Rector of Llangernyw, Llanidloes, Ystrad Yw and Pembrokeshire.

The Rev D. Mark Griffiths, Vicar of Swansea St Nicholas, to be Vicar of Swansea St Gabriel's.

The Rev Andrew G. Loat, Rector of Whitton with Pileth with Casob with Llangynw with Beddau, to be Rector of Llandudno with Cefnlllys with Disert.

Baroness Uddin, of Bethnal Green in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

Baron Mackenzie of Framwellgate, of Durham in the County of Durham.

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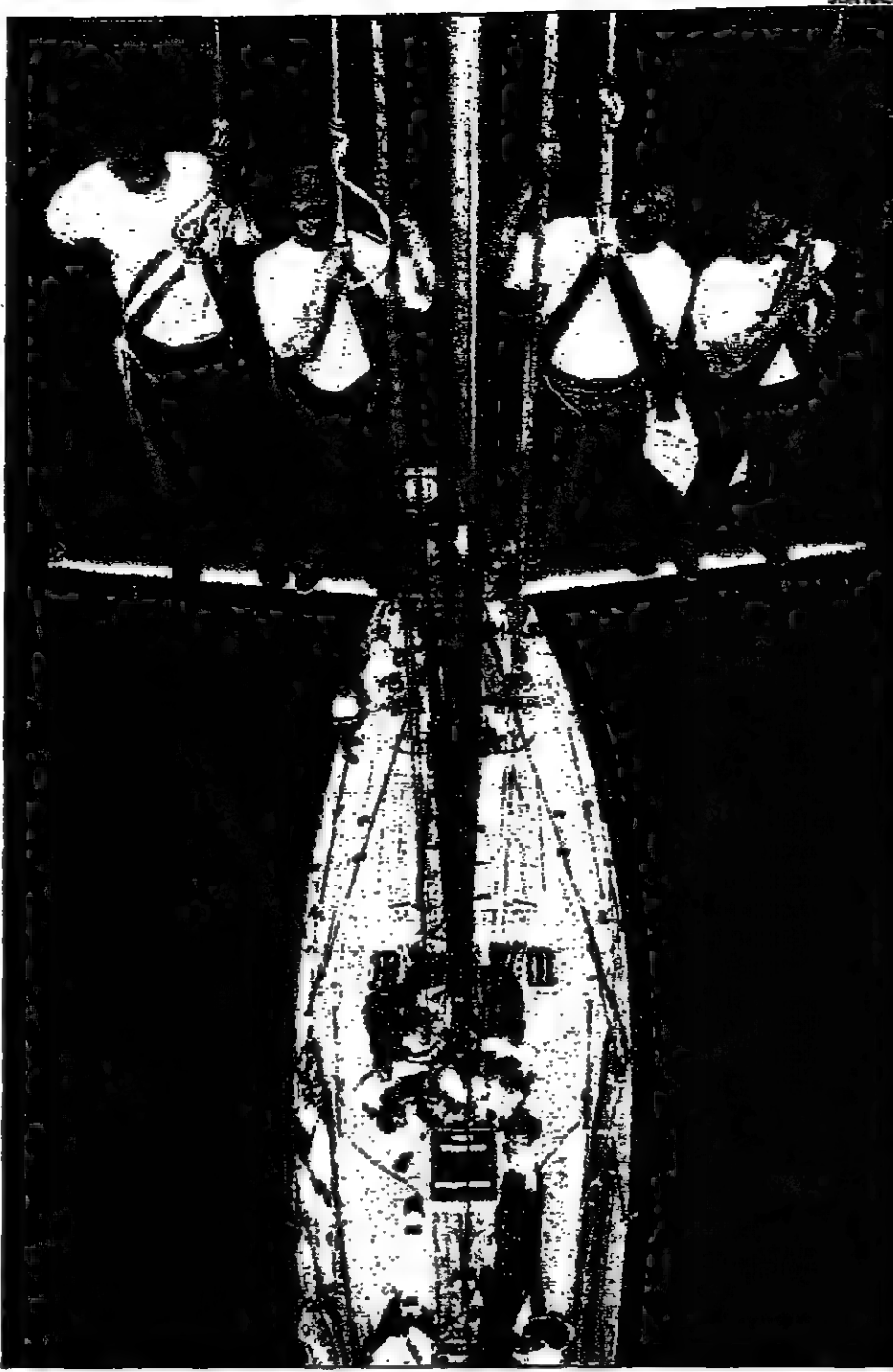
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LAUNCH PARTY: Four crew members who have been chosen to take part in Clipper '98, Sir Robin Knox-Johnston's second Clipper Round the World Yacht Race, joining in the celebrations to launch the race at St Katherine's Dock, London, yesterday. The four, from left, Marcus Fitch Kemp, Rebecca Aird, Craig Williams, and Kate Fawcett are standing on the first spreader, about halfway up the mast of *Taeping*, one of eight identical 60ft yachts that will set sail from Plymouth in October on the first leg of the 34,000 mile, 10-month race around the world.

The race visits San Salvador, Havana, Panama, Galapagos, Japan and China, travels up the Yangtze River to Shanghai, goes on to Hong Kong, Singapore and the Seychelles, and on the final run home, visits South Africa, Brazil and the Azores.

Each crew consists of a professional skipper and 14 amateur sailors. Some of the 170 selected for the race will join for one or more of the race legs, while others will stay for the complete circumnavigation. Some have little or no sailing experience, but all have undergone an extensive training programme.

Latest wills

Evelyn Davis, of London SW3, left estate valued at £1,985,229 net.
Lella Mary Coates, of Lymington St Anne's, Lancashire, left estate valued at £1,901,575 net.
She left £5,000 each to Greater Manchester Charities Air Fund, London and the Royal National Children's Home, Distressed Gentle Folks Aid Association, RSCA, Guide Dogs for the Blind, National Cancer Research League, and other research charities, and £100,000 to the Royal National Children's Home, London.

Barbara Yu Ling Albery, of London WC2, left estate valued at £605,509 net.
Gertrude Marie Matilde Ravn Arnold, of Harrogate, North Yorkshire, left estate valued at £496,411 net.
Eric Walter Bailey, of Moulton, Northampton, left estate valued at £773,805 net.
Thomas Patrick Brennan, of Widnes, Cheshire, left estate valued at £701,092 net.
Peter Brittain, retired company director, of Wicksley, Rotham, South Yorkshire, left estate valued at £525,000 net.
He left £5,000 to St Alban's Church, Wicksley.

Stephen Henry Brown, produce manager, of Bedford-on-Sea, Essex, left estate valued at £705,601 net.
Eileen Burgess, of Stamford, Lincolnshire, left estate valued at £676,536 net.
Richard Henry Coombes, of Salts, Cornwall, left estate valued at £835,676 net.
Daisy Kathleen Cox, of Timbury, Romney, Hampshire, left estate valued at £547,700 net.
She left £500 to St Andrew's Church, Timbury.

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

Some have suggested a test to check if you are a "real" person. They say that if you are a "real" person, you will be able to answer the following questions:

1. What is your name?
2. What is your address?
3. What is your phone number?
4. What is your date of birth?

5. What is your favourite colour?
6. What is your favourite food?

7. What is your favourite sport?
8. What is your favourite TV show?

9. What is your favourite book?
10. What is your favourite music?

11. What is your favourite animal?
12. What is your favourite flower?

13. What is your favourite drink?
14. What is your favourite fruit?

15. What is your favourite vegetable?
16. What is your favourite season?

17. What is your favourite month?
18. What is your favourite day of the week?

19. What is your favourite time of day?
20. What is your favourite holiday?

21. What is your favourite city?
22. What is your favourite country?

23. What is your favourite animal?
24. What is your favourite flower?

25. What is your favourite drink?
26. What is your favourite fruit?

27. What is your favourite vegetable?
28. What is your favourite season?

29. What is your favourite month?
30. What is your favourite day of the week?

31. What is your favourite time of day?
32. What is your favourite holiday?

BIRTHS
AL SAUD - On July 18th at The Portland Hospital to Laila Mughni and Abdulaziz Mughni, a son, Akram, a brother for Laila.

MILLARY - On June 28th at The Portland Hospital to Laila Mughni and Abdulaziz Mughni, a son, Akram, a brother for Laila.

ALSAUD - On July 11th at The Portland Hospital to Maha and Ahmed, a son, Muehamad.

ANDREWS - On July 9th to Tanya Andrews and Philip Cayford, a son, Tom.

AMUNTHOUGHT - On July 5th to Susan and Robert, a daughter, Charlotte Rose.

BACON - On July 15th at The Portland Hospital to Vivian (nee Fung) and Ashley, a daughter, Emily.

BONNARY - On July 13th at The Portland Hospital to Elena (nee Muller) and Francis, a daughter, Alexandra Josephine.

CAYFORD - See Andrews.

FALCONO - On July 12th at The Portland Hospital to Rachel and David, a daughter, Francesca.

FRAME - On July 18th at The Portland Hospital to Judith (nee Nicholson) and Julian, a daughter, Eleanor.

FUNG - On July 15th at The Portland Hospital to Sachiko (Kobayashi) and Hideo, a son, Yuta.

GOLDSTEIN - On July 10th at The Portland Hospital to Cristina and Anthony, a daughter, Carla.

GREIN - On July 13th 1998 to Judith (nee Conzoni) and Richard, a son, James.

HAMMOND - On July 10th at The Portland Hospital to Annabel and Amelia.

KIRKPATRICK - On July 11th at The Portland Hospital to Nadine (nee Davis) and Guy, a daughter, Georgia.

KIRKPATRICK - On Tuesday 7th July 1998 at St Thomas' Hospital, to Miranda (nee Fitzwilliam-Lay) and Francis, a daughter, Laura Rose.

DEATHS
BARRETT - Raymond Frank, very young son of Mrs Raymond Barrett, Norfolk, aged 87. Funeral service on Friday 24th July at 11.15 am at St Margaret's, Hopton-on-Sea. All enquiries to Arthur Jary & Sons, 212-214 Northgate, Norwich, NR2 1DH (Tel: 01603 443833).

COATES - George Arnold, aged 76 years, peacefully at home on July 17th. A devoted husband and loving father. Burial at Clifton Crematorium, Clifton, Bristol, on Thursday 23rd July at 11.30 am. Flowers by donation to the Clifton Crematorium, Clifton, Bristol, on Thursday 23rd July at 11.30 am. Family flowers only.

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THE INDEPENDENT

No 3,668

TUESDAY 21 JULY 1998

(TR50P) 45p

IN THE NEWS SECTION

Stroke of fortune

JUSTIN ROSE, SPORT



IN THE BROADSHEET REVIEW

A marriage made in hell

JASMIN'S STORY, FRONT



Charity: the naked truth

FEATURES, PLUS COMMENT, HEALTH



& MEDIA

He came by Tube, he left by car...



The Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, travelling to the Commons yesterday by Tube to deliver his plans for the future of the country's transport ... and leaving, having done so, by car

...the man who'll make drivers pay

BY RANDEEP RAMESH
COLIN BROWN, and

JOHN PRESCOTT, the Deputy Prime Minister who is in charge of transport, unveiled his plans to get Britain moving again by charging motorists for driving into town centres and taxing workplace parking. Drivers will also face tolls on the nation's motorways and trunk road network - a move which motoring organisations said would simply see traffic shift on to country lanes. The plans were outlined in the Government's White Paper, *A New Deal for Transport*. The key to the success of the policy is the ability of councils to use the money collected to fund bus, rail and tram links.

New powers will let local authorities charge drivers travelling into busy town centres and levy a tax on companies with car parks. Ministers say that 10 per cent of the total number of people commuting to and from work by car on their own need to switch to public transport in order to curb traffic growth. Treasury figures show that by 2005, income from these "new income streams" will top £1bn a year. Tony Blair, the Prime Minister, is convinced that raising £1bn for public transport investment at the expense of car users is in line with public opinion, but the Tories said last night it would become a key battleground for the next election.

"It will mean higher taxes by the back door," said a senior Tory source. The Tories claimed it would break the spirit of the Labour manifesto pledge not to raise personal taxation. William Hague, the Conservative leader, will today tell a London conference that the tax and spending policies announced by the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, and Mr Prescott provided big targets for the Tories to attack. Supermarkets and retailers escaped a parking levy, although they will be expected to provide better bus services and rail links to encourage shoppers to use public transport. Considered a victim of intense lobbying by supermarkets, Mr Prescott said that

INSIDE
School runs, car clubs and green commuters; Lille, the perfect city for public transport pages 6 and 7
David Aaronovitch, Leading article Review, page 3

these measures will be looked at again at a later date. There was speculation that Downing Street, which was heavily involved in the drafting of the plan to tax out-of-town shopping developments. Moves to cut down on the "school run" were also announced, with safer walking and cycling routes, aimed at

reducing the need to take children to school by car. Despite these measures, Mr Prescott said his White Paper, the first in 20 years, would see the car "remain an important symbol of a prosperous, inclusive mobile society" and that "Mondoo man can breathe a sigh of relief". He went on: "After 20 years in the wilderness, this is the day

transport policy bursts out into the light of a new dawn." Many complained, however, that Mr Prescott does not practise what he preaches. He arrived at the House of Commons by Tube but left by his red ministerial Jaguar. Mr Prescott has written the White Paper with the aim of providing carrots as well as sticks. There will be £300m more for local bus services and more stringent enforcement of bus lanes. There will also be an extra £300m for the rail industry and the setting up of a new strategic rail authority. The White Paper heralds the biggest shake-up of the railways since the industry was privatised by the last administration. Train operators face "in-

stant" fines for poor performance. The new rail authority will be answerable to ministers and will be able to direct Railtrack, which owns the nation's track and signalling, to spend cash on the network. Mr Prescott will re-regulate some bus routes - ending bus deregulation, which ministers claimed have seen bus wars erupt on city streets. Another innovation ministers say will see more people using public transport is a national information service.

Based on a Dutch system, this will allow travellers to ring a national number and get a door-to-door plan for their journey. The Automobile Association praised Mr Prescott for his determination to tackle Britain's "abominable" transport system. But John Dawson, policy director, added: "The case for new charges on top of the £1,000 a year the average driver already pays in taxes is thin. But the country desperately needs investment in road maintenance and new transport choices."

Cancer vaccine may end chemotherapy

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
Health Editor

A NEW era in cancer therapy could be opened later this year with the launch of a vaccine which tackles the disease in a new way and could spell the end of chemotherapy. Melanin is the first cancer vaccine which has been developed as a treatment for advanced melanoma, the most aggressive form of skin cancer which claims 2,000 lives a year in the UK. The drug is expected to win approval from the US Food and Drug Administration within the next six months after trials in patients showed "promising" results. A further five or six cancer vaccines are in the pipeline and are expected to be launched within the next two years. Some experts predict that they could spell the end of chemotherapy - treatment with large doses of toxic drugs whose effects can be worse than the disease - and usher in

kinder therapies for people with cancer. Cancer vaccines are so-called because they work by harnessing the body's immune system to fight the disease. They differ from conventional vaccines because they are given as a treatment rather than to prevent disease. They are the first new class of drugs for cancer in a decade since the taxanes were developed in the late 1980s. These include the drugs Taxol, for advanced ovarian cancer which is derived from the bark of the Pacific yew tree and Taxotere, for advanced breast cancer. Melanoma is the first cancer for which researchers have identified antigenic molecules on the surface of the cancer cells which act as a trigger for the immune system. Melanin, made by the US biotechnology company Ribi Immunochem, is one of a number of vaccines being developed for melanoma which primes the immune system to recognise the molecules

and boosts the immune response to destroy cancer cells. Professor Angus Dalgleish, director of the Gordon Cancer Vaccine Laboratory at St George's Hospital, London, said: "Cancer vaccines may well take over from chemotherapy. They will probably knock out chemotherapy in some adjuvant regimes (where it is given with other drugs)." Most cancers had been developing for years in the body before they were diagnosed during which they turned the immune response off. The idea of cancer vaccines was to re-awaken the immune system. He said: "Where cancer vaccines are going to work is in cases where a solid tumour is removed and there is a high chance of the cancer coming back. They are the people who will get the vaccine to kick start the immune system. In most cases it will only delay the inevitable but if you can do that with a non-toxic treatment that will be a valuable advance."

100 die as big heat scorches America

BY ANDREW MARSHALL
in Washington

UP IN the mountains, it is a searing heat which sucks the air from the lungs and scorches the skin. In the coastal cities, it is a damp, heavy heat which turns the lightest clothes into sweaty rags in seconds. But wherever you are in America, it is hot, very hot. The nation is sweltering through one of the fiercest months since records began, with the South-West taking the brunt. In Britain, the complaint may be that the sun has hardly shown its face but in America it is ever-present, turning the walk from house to car into a journey through an inferno. It is more than just a nuisance: 110 people have died across the country as the weather maps have turned from yellow to amber to a deep angry red. Temperatures have soared to over 100°F (38°C) across a broad arc of the West,



A corn crop withers away from Arizona through central California and the Sierra Nevada, and in a vast swathe of the Great Plains, from the Dakotas in the north to the Sierra Madre in Mexico. El Niño is partly to blame, tilting the jet streams that normally keep the warm, dry air over the mountains and producing the hottest weather for nearly two decades. The US Government has

tried to use the hot weather to get Congress to approve the global warming treaty signed in Kyoto last year. "Think about it," said Vice President Al Gore last week. "The hottest June on record. Withering heat in Texas and Florida. Cities that are setting thousand-year records for high temperature. How much more proof do we need that global warming is real?" The worst affected have been those who take their lives in their hands and trek across the border from Mexico, a risky enterprise at the best of times. So far 43 have died from heat exhaustion and dehydration as they sought a better life in America. Farmers are watching the crops wither in the fields, and even the hardy mesquite bushes of Texas are dying. Oklahoma is suffering one of the worst years since the dust bowl of the 1930s sent thousands fleeing West, and the state has declared most counties disaster areas.

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City figures dismissed the Stock Exchange's attempts to improve its electronic trading
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Arsenal are clear to play European Champions' League matches at Wembley this season
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Bishops told to cast off finery

The Archbishop of Canterbury has warned the 800 bishops at the Lambeth Conference not to luxuriate in the trappings of power, even volunteering to chuck all his mitres into the *Thames*. In his inaugural address to the 10-yearly international gathering yesterday, Dr George Carey said: "Ours is to be a ministry of service, following the pattern laid down by our lord in washing his disciples' feet."

Page 5

Surreal life at County Hall

County Hall in London could become Britain's first Salvador Dali Museum. Talks are under way to house up to 60 sculptures by the celebrated Spanish surrealist in the former home of the GLC. Part of the museum's plans would be to plunge a section of the erstwhile centre of London local government into semi-darkness with quirky music playing to reflect the surrealist's dreamlike artistic fantasies.

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FOREIGN NEWS

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Philadelphia hosts Hispanics

In a cultural encounter that foreshadows the future of the United States, Philadelphia is hosting upwards of 15,000 representatives of the National Council of La Raza, the country's biggest organisation of Hispanics.

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Gunsmoke clouds over Karachi

Karachi is Pakistan's biggest city, its only port and its commercial and industrial hub. It used to be the capital, too. Yet it has become apparent this summer how present Pakistan's politicians were when in 1963 they moved en masse to the new garden capital of Islamabad, as Karachi has disappeared once again beneath a haze of gunsmoke.

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BUSINESS NEWS

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PepsiCo buys Tropicana juices

In an important reshaping of the soft drinks industry, Seagram Co announced yesterday that it was offloading its Tropicana chilled juices business to PepsiCo Inc in a deal worth \$3.3bn. The transaction will unite the world's second beverage company with the number one producer of branded juices.

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SPORTS NEWS

PAGES 22-28

Desbriens keeps yellow jersey

The French rider Laurent Desbriens retained the yellow jersey in the Tour de France after the Dutchman Leon Van Bon won the ninth stage, the last before the mountains.

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TUESDAY REVIEW

20-PAGE BROADSHEET SECTION

David Aaronovitch

"Once you have bought a car, taxed it, MOT'ed it, cleaned it, and bought Supertramp tapes for it, almost any other form of transport is likely to be just as, if not more, expensive."

Page 3

Terence Blacker

"So what do we now expect of the luckless David Beckham? Not much. Apology, despair, professional and personal misfortune, a trip to hell and back, should just about do it. Then we'd love him to tell us all!"

Page 4

Jacqueline Laing

By interfering in the reproductive act, the technologists behave as though very young humans are just commodities, to be created, maintained and destroyed (if "unfit for their purpose") to satisfy the desires of desperate couples.

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Lawrence family in attack on Condon

BY ELIZA CRAWFORD

THE PARENTS of Stephen Lawrence yesterday launched a renewed attack on the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police as the first crucial stage of the inquiry into their son's murder came to an end.

Speaking at the end of 56 days of evidence, Neville Lawrence said his criticisms of the police investigation "have been vindicated".

Doreen Lawrence called for the resignation of Sir Paul Condon, claiming the attitude of the police to black people was no better now than at the time of Stephen's killing in April 1993.

Earlier, the inquiry chairman, Sir William Macpherson, paid tribute to the courage of the couple when he brought the proceedings to a temporary end.

"I want to end as we started, with a minute's silence to remember Stephen Lawrence, and I would like to congratulate the courage of his parents," he said. His words were met by a round of applause from the public gallery before the inquiry room fell silent and lawyers joined relatives in howling their heads.

The inquiry into the death of Stephen, a black 18-year-old student killed by a gang of white racists at a bus stop in Eltham, south London, will resume on 18 September. Relatives and friends then emerged from Hamelin House, Kilesham, and Castle, south London to lay orange carnations at the foot of a lifesize mural of Stephen. His parents then read out separate statements.

Mrs Lawrence said: "At the start of my quest, all I could see was the face of my son lying on the hospital bed looking peaceful and calm."

"At the time I did not set out with the intention of criticising the police. My one contention was that the police had allowed

the murderers of my son to walk away free."

But she said she had become increasingly incensed by the way Metropolitan Police officers had sought to put the blame at the door of her family.

"The majority of the legal teams who represent the police and authorities have shown by their behaviour and attitude that they are no better than the officers who conducted the original investigation into the murder of my son."

She added: "The inquiry into my son's murder has shown the public at large how black people have been, and still are being, treated by those who say that they treat everyone alike."

When asked if Sir Paul Condon should resign, she said: "He was there from the word go supporting his officers and therefore I think he should resign." She said that it could take "well into the millennium" before the wounds of this case will heal.

Neville Lawrence said: "The Met claim that things have improved since 1993, but plainly this is not true."

He acknowledged that the Commissioner had apologised over the handling of the case, but claimed this apology was not supported by the rank and file of the police force.

He concluded by challenging Sir Paul Condon to answer three questions: He asked whether the police chief would admit that racism had played an important role in the investigation; what action had been taken over an officer who had connections with the father of one of five suspects in the case, and whether any of the officers still serving would be disciplined over their role in the investigation.

The inquiry has now been adjourned to allow lawyers to prepare closing statements which will be presented in September.



Adele Chapman, who left Birmingham Children's Hospital yesterday after a triple transplant operation Mike Sewell

Women's groups demand action on forced marriages

BY STEVE BOGGAN

WOMEN'S GROUPS yesterday called on the Government to provide more money to tackle the growing problem of forced marriages in the Asian community.

They want measures to prevent women being tricked or coerced into marrying against their will. *The Independent* reported yesterday that forced marriages were increasing as second-generation British Asians demanded the right to choose their spouses.

Since the Government abolished the unpopular "primary purpose" immigration rule, where spouses could be excluded if officials believed the marriage was one of convenience, the number of people gaining entry using their new, British-born, wife or husband as sponsor is believed to have increased. Some are thought to involve enforced marriages.

Women have been tricked by

their families into travelling abroad for a "holiday" or to visit a sick relative, but once they arrive, find a marriage to a stranger has been arranged.

Some women are taken to remote villages - predominantly in Pakistan - never to return to the UK; others return but have to bring into the country, and support, their new spouse, who is not eligible for benefits.

Although arranged marriages, with the consent of both sides, are still the norm in many sections of the community, forced marriages appear to be increasing, resulting in many young women and men running away from home.

When they do, "bounty hunters" are employed to hunt them down and take them back to their families and the prospect of a forced marriage

abroad. Women's groups like the Southall Black Sisters and the Keighley Women's Domestic Violence Forum try to prevent women being coerced into marriages at home and abroad.

They say a re-tightening of immigration laws is not the answer. Only more help on the ground in Britain and in the countries to which women are taken can help. "Women are not being forced into marriages in order to get visas for their husbands," said Hannana Siddiqui of Southall Black Sisters.

"Forced marriages are simply used to control young women's freedoms and sexuality. Reinstating the primary purpose rule is not the answer. It is a much wider problem which can only be solved by empowering women and providing more money for women's groups like ours, for more refugees and advice on the ground."

"Professionals like teachers and GPs should also be more active when they suspect that women they come into contact with are being forced into a marriage."

Shamshad Hussain, one of the Keighley Women's Domestic Violence Forum workers, said: "We need advice and support services and we need training for people on the front line like GPs, health visitors, and staff at Citizens Advice Bureaux and Asian Women's Centres on what course of action to take when someone tells them they are being forced into a marriage. We also need elders in the community to take responsibility and publicly condemn the practice of forced marriages and encourage communication between parents and young people over the way forward."

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BRITAIN TODAY		YESTERDAY		THE WORLD																																																																																																																															
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OUTLOOK Scotland, Northern Ireland and north-west England and Wales will have a showery day with heavy downpours and sunny breaks in between, but there will be more persistent rain over the far north of Scotland. South Wales and south-west England will have sunny spells with the odd sharp shower passing by but it should become dry later. The eastern half of England will have a fresher day with sunnier, but the morning will be mostly dry but scattered afternoon showers will break out.		SUN & MOON Sun rises: 05:08 Sun sets: 21:09 Moon rises: 05:13 Moon sets: 19:10 New moon: July 23rd.		THE WORLD YESTERDAY <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Aberdeen</td><td>17</td><td>65</td><td>London</td><td>17</td><td>63</td></tr> <tr> <td>Angelsey</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td>Manchester</td><td>17</td><td>63</td></tr> <tr> <td>Argy</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td>Newcastle</td><td>17</td><td>63</td></tr> <tr> <td>Belfast</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td>Norwich</td><td>17</td><td>63</td></tr> <tr> <td>Birmingham</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td>Oxford</td><td>17</td><td>63</td></tr> <tr> <td>Bristol</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td>Plymouth</td><td>17</td><td>63</td></tr> <tr> <td>Cardiff</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td>Reading</td><td>17</td><td>63</td></tr> <tr> <td>Dundee</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td>Southampton</td><td>17</td><td>63</td></tr> <tr> <td>Edinburgh</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td>Swansea</td><td>17</td><td>63</td></tr> <tr> <td>Glasgow</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td>Tyneside</td><td>17</td><td>63</td></tr> <tr> <td>Liverpool</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td>York</td><td>17</td><td>63</td></tr> <tr> <td>Manchester</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Newcastle</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Norwich</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Oxford</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Plymouth</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Reading</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Southampton</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Swansea</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Tyneside</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>York</td><td>17</td><td>63</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>		Aberdeen	17	65	London	17	63	Angelsey	17	63	Manchester	17	63	Argy	17	63	Newcastle	17	63	Belfast	17	63	Norwich	17	63	Birmingham	17	63	Oxford	17	63	Bristol	17	63	Plymouth	17	63	Cardiff	17	63	Reading	17	63	Dundee	17	63	Southampton	17	63	Edinburgh	17	63	Swansea	17	63	Glasgow	17	63	Tyneside	17	63	Liverpool	17	63	York	17	63	Manchester	17	63				Newcastle	17	63				Norwich	17	63				Oxford	17	63				Plymouth	17	63				Reading	17	63				Southampton	17	63				Swansea	17	63				Tyneside	17	63				York	17	63			
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The message from Paris: marvel at the frocks, but buy the sunglasses

FORGET the millionaires and trophy wife clients. Their presence merely gives the *haute couture* a phoney reason to exist.

They act as a façade - an attempt to hid the outside world that the luxury of *couture* is still in demand.

The five days during which Paris is hosting the *couture* shows for autumn/winter '98 are nothing more than an orgy of publicity and public relations. The clothes are secondary. The reality is that only a few hundred women can afford the services of a *couturier*.

What they are here to sell are the associated perfumes, potions and creams which bear the designer logos and names, and trade on the glamour.

Yesterday, for example, when Dior kept the few hundred of the world's richest women and most influential buyers and fashion press waiting for an hour and 20 minutes for their "Diorient Express" to pull into the platform at the Gare d'Austerlitz, image was everything.

The face-lifted ladies, the hundreds of camera and film crews and the sweltering banks of press were as part and parcel of the show as the clothes.

Dani Behr and Isabella Rossellini, were both seated on the front row sipping champagne handed to them by waiters from silver trays.

But they were not there because they were about to fork out a small fortune on a new frock. They too were part of the publicity machine.

On Thursday night, the two stars will present the first ever television show to be given total access to the world of *haute couture*. It will be broadcast on ABC in America. "Everybody loves to see a bit of glamour and fantasy," said the presenter, Dani Behr. "Most of the people attending this show can't afford to buy *couture*, but they are seduced by the glamour of it."

The cost of putting on a *couture* extravaganza - and when you hire a steam train and close down a platform on a working railway station for a day, it most certainly is an extravaganza - is tens of thousands of pounds.

For LVMH, the luxury goods group that owns Givenchy and Dior, the expense is well worth it. A fashion house will pay £16,000 for a double page advert in British *Vogue*. The publicity generated by a single *couture* show with millions of Americans tuning in to ABC on Thursday night alone is worth more ad-

BY TAMMIN BLANCHARD
in Paris

vertising than money can buy.

Neither are the shows and the glamour about fantasy and giving ordinary folk a glimpse of a lifestyle they will never be able to afford. This is not about dresses at all.

What LVMH is really peddling is Dior stockings at £2.95 a pair, cellulite cream at £30 a jar, perfume at £25 a bottle, and sunglasses at £80 a throw. Dior's perfume sales alone are worth £550m.

The costs of making a *couture* collection far outweigh any revenue from sales. The whole event - from the supermodels who are paid five-figure sums to the fashion editors who studiously examine every outfit, few of which will actually ever be made, are like extras for a movie with a cast of hundreds.

Only a fraction of the clothes shown on the catwalk will ever be seen again, apart from in

Brands are big business

THE DRESSES may be Christian Dior or Kenzo but their big importance is as a multi million pound slice of sales from an international conglomerate.

The parent company of Christian Dior, Louis Vuitton Moët Hennessy (LVMH), earned \$4.8 billion in 1997, much of which was from the sale of perfume, beauty products and luggage bearing the name of

Christian Dior
PARIS

some of the world's most famous fashion houses.

Only a quarter of the sales of LVMH, which includes names such as Guerlain and Christian Lacroix, came from fashion and luggage sales. Duty free shopping accounted for the biggest slice of sales (just more than a quarter of the total).

More than a fifth of LVMH's sales were from people buying perfume and beauty products such as skin creams and make-up.

glossy fashion magazines. If a Hollywood star like Nicole Kidman can be coaxed into wearing Dior, so much the better. She will generate more pictures and more publicity in newspapers across the world, serving to sell more cellulite cream to Mrs Brown in Stafford.

Of course there are women who have significant budgets to spend on *haute couture*, but they are few and far between.

The fashion editor of *Al-Sharikh* magazine, the Saudi Arabian publication that prints two *couture* supplements a year, insists that she provides the catalogue from which wealthy Middle Eastern women can choose their outfits in the privacy of their own homes. A significant amount of *couture* business is with Middle Eastern women who prefer to remain anonymous and do not even attend the shows.

Genevieve Thomas, a 32-year-old Canadian broker based in Hong Kong, flew over to Paris specially for the shows at Dior, Chanel and Givenchy. "I am a *couture* customer," she said, "but it would have to be a very special occasion to justify wearing a *couture* dress." She is a new breed of *couture* client, a self-made woman with her own independent income.

But women like her are rare. Joan Schmitzer-Levy, from Texas, seated on the front row with her gilt-edged Christian Dior sunglasses and matching bag, agrees that for her *couture* is an indulgence. "There are many other things to do with your money these days, like buying paintings and jewellery."

There are those who still believe that the *haute couture* serves as a laboratory for fashion. Alexandra Shulman, editor of British *Vogue*, attends the shows with a team from her magazine. "*Couture* is relevant to *Vogue* because it gives the designers a chance to experiment and do what they are capable of in an unrestricted way. It is not just to publicise the fragrances. What we see on the catwalks eventually filters down into the ready-to-wear collection."

After John Galliano's trawl through the costumes of Pocahontas and the court of Henry VIII for Dior yesterday afternoon, however, it is difficult to see how the ideas will be relevant to any modern woman's wardrobe, however wealthy.

The only place a Hong Kong broker like Genevieve Thomas could possibly wear a Dior doublet and hose or a Henry VIII style coat and Indian head-dress is a fancy dress ball.

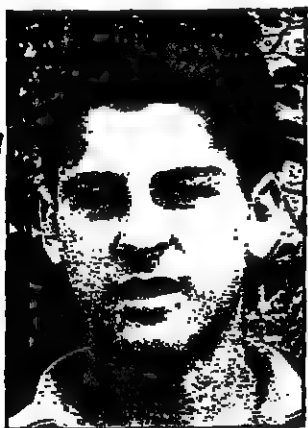


Naomi Campbell at the Dior show in Paris

Peter Macdiarmid



After 46 years, Craig's evidence could clear Bentley



Craig, now retired

ONE OF THE most emotive cause celebres in British criminal history is due to reach a dramatic climax this week when Christopher Craig gives evidence that could at last clear the name of Derek Bentley.

Craig, whose shooting of a policeman sent Bentley, 19 years old but with a mental age of 11, to the gallows 46 years ago is expected to provide testimony that was suppressed at

BY KIM SENGUPTA

the original trial. Craig, now a 61-year-old retired farmer has taken a lie-detector test, and is prepared to tell the Court of Appeal that Bentley had tried to stop him from shooting with a revolver with the words: "What the bloody hell's got into you?"

If the evidence had been revealed during the case in 1952 it could have undermined the

prosecution case that Craig and Bentley were involved in a joint enterprise, and thus equally guilty of the murder of PC Sidney Miles during a failed robbery.

However, Craig, who was 16 at the time, failed to include this in his evidence at the trial on the advice of his barrister because it would have damaged his defence that the killing was accidental. This account is sup-

ported in a statement by the barrister in question, John Parris.

Bentley himself did not give evidence of this at the trial, but his lawyers suggested it was quite possible, given his limited intellect, that he had forgotten.

His case is also supported by hospital case papers, which show Bentley recalling, while he was on remand, that he

shouted at Craig to give up his gun, but he refused to do so and then shot PC Miles "between his eyes".

Craig, who was too young to hang, was detained at Her Majesty's pleasure after the trial and served 10 years in jail.

Bentley's family have, with the support of leading public figures, fought a long battle to earn him a posthumous pardon. His sister Iris, who led the

campaign, died of cancer before it was announced that the Criminal Cases Review Commission was sending the case back to the Court of Appeal for reconsideration.

The court heard that Bentley was found guilty on the basis of five words - "Let him have it Chris" - which the police claimed he had said.

But Mr Fitzgerald said there was "the gravest doubt"

whether those words were uttered. He said the words were remarkably similar to those in the notorious case of the shooting of a police officer 10 years earlier when a criminal, called Appleby, had incited the shooting by saying: "Let him have it, he is all alone." Mr Fitzgerald said it was too coincidental that Bentley would use precisely the same words. The appeal continues.

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What is mobile data?

Mobile data combines two distinct technologies, computing and cellular communications, providing the mobile work-force with a set of powerful tools enabling them to work away from their office. Digital mobile phones communicate in 1s and 0s just as computers do, therefore the mobile phone network can be used as an alternative to the fixed line networks to provide communications between computers.

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Have you ever wanted to know about your rival's latest product the instant it is announced?

Make sure you are ready to log onto the World Wide Web to pick up the details when your rivals announce their latest products. With mobile

data, you may have found it less straightforward than it should be. You need all the right connectors. To plug a computer into a standard telephone socket means that you need the right lead. Different countries have a bizarre and incompatible range of

Why is the SH888 the best phone for mobile data?

To transfer data, PCs require a modem. Before the Ericsson SH888, a portable PC modem was contained in a PC card, which slotted inside

red when you transfer data, the drain on the battery is nominal too. And because it supports the IrDA protocol it is compatible with the widest range of PCs, laptops and PDAs (operating Windows CE 2.0). It's even compatible with the Psion 5 and the Palm III.

So how do I use the SH888 to connect to the Internet?

Connecting to the Internet with the SH888 is extremely simple, but it must be noted that you cannot just buy the hardware, switch it on and expect to browse the web. Firstly, you have to subscribe to an Internet service provider, either privately or through your company and then each time follow these simple steps. Activate your PC or PDA's infra-red port, select "Activate IR port" on the SH888's menu. Place the phone next to the computer, ensuring the infra-red ports are facing each other. Then either log into your office network or dial into your Internet service provider. Click onto your Internet icon and enter your desired address. For faster downloading you can opt to turn the images off.

And how do I use the SH888 for e-mail?

Sending and receiving e-mail is as simple as connecting to the Internet and follows much the same pattern - so again, you must

have an e-mail account with a service provider either privately or through your office. Switch on your PC and phone, line up the infra-red ports and to send or receive e-mail, dial into your office or service provider. Then click on the e-mail or the in-box icons. You need only be on-line to transmit and receive e-mails, so you can read and write them at your leisure without tying up your phone line, keeping your costs down as well as your line free for other business.

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Introducing the SH888 - Ericsson's most technologically advanced phone. As well as an in-built PC card and infra-red communications port, the SH888 boasts the kind of features that you would expect from the Manufacturer of the Year, as voted by the telecoms trade.

The slim battery gives you up to 120 hours standby and 400 minutes talktime on the GSM 900 network, so you may as well leave your charger at home with the cables. And because the SH888 is one of the first dual band phones available, it is the ideal companion on overseas trips. The ability to use both GSM 900 and 1800 MHz networks gives you the widest possible range of roaming partners, making it easier to get a line in remote or congested areas. The SH888's already superior sound design supports EFR (Enhanced Full Rate speech coding) providing speech and reception quality you'd expect from a land line phone. Sleek, black and futuristic with a three line display, it looks as good as it sounds. On its own it's impressive. With a computer it's amazing. The Ericsson SH888.



The new SH888.

sockets. With the SH888 you don't need to worry about sockets and cables because it has an in-built PC card and communicates with your computer directly by infra-red using the same technology as a TV remote control. For international calls a mobile phone can also be substantially cheaper than paying hotel rates.

data you can do this wherever you are. The mobile phone freed you from having to stay in the office for an important call, mobile data will free you from being tied to your office PC. You can make sure that you are as well informed as your customers and suppliers by logging on from anywhere in the world and reading the information. Ericsson's new SH888 makes accessing the Internet on the move a practical proposition.

Have you ever tried to use a computer and modem in a hotel room and given up?

If you are a frequent traveller accessing

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All you need to do to use the SH888 for Mobile Data. Configure your PC or PDA to use its infra-red port.



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Judge calls for searching inquiry as it is revealed woman who shook baby to death lied to obtain registration

Child-minder found guilty of murder

HELEN STACEY, a registered child-minder, was jailed for life yesterday for shaking to death five-month-old Joseph Macklin. After the trial at Norwich Crown Court it emerged that far from being an "ordinary woman, wife and mother" as her defence team had claimed, she was a former prostitute who had given up her first three children for adoption. The verdict and revelations about Stacey's past prompted calls for tighter regulations to stop unsuitable people obtaining local-authority registration as child-minders.

The judge, Mr Justice Blofield, called for a "searching inquiry" into how Stacey was able to become a child-minder and demanded answers to how she deceived social workers. Norfolk social services defended its part, saying that the system had failed because Stacey had not been truthful on her application form.

David Wright, social services director, said that the normal checks had been conscientiously carried out and had not uncovered any details of her previous convictions for prostitution or her decision to have her children adopted. He said extra checks had now been implemented by the council, but they needed to be adopted nationwide.

Stacey, 41, was found guilty by a majority of murdering Joseph at her home in North Walsham, Norfolk, in May last year.

She looked shocked and began to cry as the judge sentenced her to life imprisonment.

"You were then a registered child-minder and you took Joseph into your care to look after him," he said. "You lost your temper and shook him with such ferocity that he met

BY LOUISE JURY

his death. As a result of that, the death will remain a tragedy for his parents and relatives for the rest of their lives."

The judge expressed anxiety that Stacey's background was not discovered when she applied to be a child-minder, but said it was difficult if informa-



tion provided was incomplete.

He appealed to the public not to lose confidence in child-minders. "There are many caring child-minders who do a marvellous job and none of us want to see a situation where the public loses confidence in child-minders," he said.

Anthony Macklin, 32, the baby's father, had dropped off Joseph and his older sister Samantha at Stacey's home at 7am on the day he died.

When Mr Macklin, an air traffic controller, returned at 5.15pm, he thought Stacey seemed nervous about something.

Joseph had a grey pallor, blue lips and was "floppy like a rag doll", Mr Macklin said. "As soon as I saw him, I knew there was something dreadfully wrong."

Doctors could not revive the

baby who was declared dead an hour later. But Stacey said she had not thought there was anything to worry about in Joseph's demeanour.

Stacey, who had been caring for him for four days and had been a registered child-minder for five months, said she had not hurt him either deliberately or accidentally.

Medical experts agreed Joseph had been shaken to death and David Stokes QC, for the prosecution, told the court that only Stacey or the boy's parents could have done it. But neither Mr Macklin or his wife, Corinne, a hospital nursing assistant, showed any signs of being responsible.

In a statement outside court, Mr and Mrs Macklin said they were satisfied with the verdict but remained concerned about the registration procedure.

"We do not want Joseph to have died in vain and will therefore continue in our efforts to establish whether adequate checks were undertaken by the authorities on Helen Stacey's registration as a child-minder," they said.

Stacey had deliberately failed to disclose her past when applying to be a child-minder. On the police clearance form, she had ticked the box which indicated she had no other names than the current name and maiden name which she had supplied. She also denied having previous convictions.

"None of this was brought to light by the normal system of taking up references and checking police and social services records."

The Portia Trust, a charity that campaigns for compassion, said it would oppose the conviction because it was impossible to establish beyond reasonable doubt that Stacey was responsible.



Helen Stacey, a former prostitute who had given up three children for adoption, killed Joseph Macklin, left. His father said he was 'floppy like a rag doll' when he went to collect him from her. *Alban Donohoe*

Lessons of other killings 'not learned'

BY LOUISE JURY

CAMPAIGNERS YESTERDAY called for Government guidelines on the registration of child-minders to be tightened, claiming lessons from previous killings had not been learned.

Although child-minders have to register with their local authorities, there is no national register or compulsory training. There are 100,000 registered child-minders in England and Wales looking after 350,000 youngsters every day.

The National Childminding Association said it would call for child-minder training, standardised registration and constant police vigilance.

But a spokeswoman admitted no system was foolproof. Child-minders are more highly regulated than other professionals in the industry.

Richard Fraser, of the Professional Association of Nursery Nurses, said: "With every profession there's bound to be somebody who is not a good person, but at least with registration they can be struck off."

David Wright, Norfolk County Council's director of social services, said all staff involved in the registration of Stacey in December 1996 had been affected by the baby's death.

But he claimed: "No blame can be attached to these members of staff for what happened. Despite this case, Norfolk social services believes the child-minder service is a good one and that parents who rely on it can have confidence in child-minders."

A detailed review had found that the registration of Stacey was carried out conscientiously, he said.

The council has now introduced two extra requirements - the production of a marriage certificate and a medical report from the applicant's GP - and urges the Government to make them a national standard.

Doctor struck off after sex assault on woman patient

A DOCTOR found guilty of indecent assault on a woman he had treated since the age of 10 was struck off yesterday by the General Medical Council.

The case was one of four heard this week alone by the GMC. The Council said yesterday that in the last five years there had been 45 cases of indecent assault heard of which 36 doctors had been found guilty. Of these 25 - only two thirds - were struck off.

Dr Magdy Omar was sentenced to six months' imprisonment in 1996. He had assaulted the young woman patient after conducting an internal examination.

The GMC's Professional

BY GLENDA COOPER

Conduct Committee heard yesterday that Dr Omar had "lost control" and allowed his emotions to get the better of him.

During a consultation in his surgery in north London in June 1995, the 27-year-old woman was assaulted as she squatted on the floor carrying out a back exercise. In a subsequent meeting with her recorded by police Dr Omar apologised to his patient.

The doctor protested his innocence yesterday saying the depressive illness he suffered at the time had made him confused. Dr Omar had asked the Committee to look behind the

conviction after an unsuccessful attempt to get the Court of Appeal to judge his conviction unsafe because his admission of guilt had been made when he was suffering from depression.

But Rosalind Foster, council for the GMC, said to do so would "open the floodgates" for doctors seeking to challenge their convictions in the criminal courts. The committee ruled it was not able to look behind the conviction.

Dr Omar told the hearing that he had not brought the profession into disrepute but had "acted all along in the best traditions of the medical profession". When he was first questioned about the incident

Dr Omar had told police "I let my feelings get the better of me and that was wrong".

"There was a clear acceptance of fault," said Ms Foster who described the incident as a "serious breach of trust".

Announcing the committee's decision, the chairman, Sir Herbert Duthe, said it took a "grave view" of the offence of indecency - "it undermines the trust which the public places in the integrity of members of the medical profession".

Sir Herbert said that Dr Omar's name would be suspended from the Register with immediate effect and he would be struck off in 28 days time unless he appealed.

IN BRIEF

All but ten 'Bloody Sunday' troops stay away from new inquiry

ONLY TEN out of 168 British soldiers who gave statements to police after the 1972 Bloody Sunday shootings have agreed to give evidence to the Saville Inquiry into the incident.

At the opening of a preliminary hearing, Ministry of Defence lawyers said they were unable to trace other soldiers who fired on civil-rights protesters in Londonderry.

Safari suspect still not charged

THE MAN suspected of killing British tourist Julie Ward will be charged within two weeks, Kenyan authorities said. Simon Ole Makallah was due to face charges yesterday, but a court spokesman said: "There are steps that the police must still accomplish before he is charged with a capital offence."

Briton killed in Kenyan bar raid

A BRITISH aid worker was shot dead during a robbery on a bar in the Kenyan capital Nairobi on Sunday night, his employers said yesterday. The victim was 45-year-old Colin Baker of the London-based agency Actionaid.

No charges for Fayed

MOHAMED AL Fayed will not face charges over claims that the contents of Harrods safe deposit boxes were stolen. He was arrested over allegations that deposit boxes, including one belonging to Tiny Rowland, had been opened and rifled in 1995.

Compulsory drug tests for RAF

COMPULSORY drug-testing is to be introduced to the Royal Air Force, the Armed Forces minister John Reid announced yesterday. The move brings the RAF into line with the Army and the Royal Navy.

Hypnotist denies inflicting trauma

WHAT a disappointment. The hypnotist Paul McKenna didn't even tell the members of court that they should listen to him carefully and that soon they 'could be feeling very sleepy, very sleepy indeed'.

Rather he launched straight into a staunch denial that he had subjected a volunteer to a traumatic and humiliating ordeal which left him mentally damaged.

"My show is a fun show which people choose to participate in or choose not to if they wish," Mr McKenna told Mr Justice Toulson at the High Court in London.

"If anybody shows any sign of distress, I would ask them if they want to leave the stage - if not actually ask them to leave the stage."

"And when I speak to somebody as they leave, I remind them that they are now completely back to normal."

The hypnotist was defending an action brought by schizophrenic Christopher Gates, who is claiming £200,000 damages from him. Mr Gates, 30, a furniture polisher from High

BY ANDREW BUNCOME

Wycombe, Bucks, is suing over psychiatric injuries he claims to have suffered after being hypnotised at the Swan Theatre in High Wycombe in March 1994.

During the show, volunteers were told to prance around like Mick Jagger, dance ballet and put on "magic glasses" which would enable them to see people naked.

Less than 10 days after the show, Mr Gates was admitted to hospital suffering from acute schizophrenia. His mental problems have continued and he is now unemployed.

Mr McKenna, who denies negligence, told the court that there was no question of his having overcome Mr Gates' conscious will. He saw no signs of distress in Mr Gates throughout the performance.

He agreed that his PhD from an American university - gained after he produced a 70,000-word dissertation on hypnosis - was "somewhat devalued" when it turned out the university was not accredited. The case continues.

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Prescott aims to end era of car

BY RANDOLF RAMESH
Transport Correspondent

JOHN PRESCOTT'S White Paper aims to cool the public's passion for the motor car.

The paper acknowledges the car's contribution but warns that unchecked traffic growth will see "the tranquillity of the countryside further eroded".

"Rush-hours will become longer. Driving will become less of a pleasure... and there will be more damage to the environment and our health will suffer."

To achieve the Government's ends, Mr Prescott is counting on the measures in his White Paper being sufficient.

THE MOTORIST

Drivers will be charged for driving into town centres and pilot projects will be set up to test tolling technologies on trunk roads and motorways.

Local authorities will also be able to levy a new parking tax on workplace parking in order to pressure employers to cut the number of trips staff make to work.

Councils will be given powers to use the cash raised by these levies on better bus and train services.

Holiday hotspots, particularly in the countryside, are likely to be targeted for charging, especially national parks where there is heavy seasonal traffic.

But new legislation will be needed followed by pilot schemes.

A charter for motorists which will mean better-maintained roads, better traffic information and management, and a clampdown on cowboy clammers and unscrupulous second-hand car salesmen.

RAILWAYS

Ministers will create a Strategic Rail Authority to "provide a clear, coherent and strategic programme for the development of our railways".

The SRA will ensure the railway network is integrated with other forms of transport and run as a single network and not a collection of different businesses.

A £100m investment fund will be instituted, to relieve "pinch points" on the rail network by upgrading track and signalling.

The Strategic Rail Authority, including a chairman and a board, will take over the powers of the Franchising Director, and responsibility for freight grants and will have the main responsibility for consumer protection.

Train companies will also face tougher "instant" fines for poor performance.

Last year South West Trains cut hundreds of services randomly without receiving a fine.

Railway companies hoping to extend their franchises will face "more demanding performance standards".

To make sure that passenger groups provide the most effective and independent voice for rail users, sponsorship for the existing Central Rail Users Consultative Committee and Rail Users Consultative Committees Passenger Group will transfer to the SRA and membership will include a wider cross-section of passengers.

To remove the risk of any existing railway land which might be of potential value to the passenger or freight railway slipping through the net, the British Railways Board will suspend land sales immediately until it has conducted an audit of the remaining sites.

BUSES

More money will be available for "Quality partnerships", which see councils investing in better bus-stops and private coach companies matching the cash spent on new buses.

There will be national minimum concessionary fares for pensioners, which will mean at least half-price bus tickets for those who qualify for a maximum £5 annual charge.

ROADS

The Highways Agency will be reformed and given a key role in managing the trunk-road network, possibly with new income streams from tolling.

Policies will be framed to help reduce the need for children to be driven to school by encouraging safer routes for walking and cycling, giving greater priority to public transport.

New planning policies will improve opportunities to get to work and the shops without having to use a car.

NEW COMMISSION FOR INTEGRATED TRANSPORT

This will provide impartial advice to the Government and monitor progress on implementation of policy.

It will ensure that the five-year plans put forward by local authorities manage to cut traffic levels and are not just used to raise cash for council schemes. A national integrated transport telephone service - to be set up by the year 2000 - will provide passengers with a route from their doorstep to their destination on public transport.

SECURITY

The White Paper addresses passengers' fears of crime. Tackling crime wherever it occurs in the transport system will be a priority.

Under the new Secure Stations scheme, all 3,000 stations policed by the British Transport Police can apply to join.

Stations will have trained staff and closed-circuit surveillance, regular inspections and better lighting.

Better street design and closed-circuit television can help curb fears of bus passengers waiting at bus-stops, particularly women, late at night.



Richard Thieme loads his children into a car outside Oaklands Junior and Infants School in Crowthorne, Berkshire, yesterday

John Voos

School's out – and so's the school run

THE CLEVER ones come early. Range Rovers, Golfs, Cios and stalwart Fiestas prowling the tree-lined lane looking for a temporary home as another 'school run' gets underway at Oaklands Junior and Infants School in the Berkshire town of Crowthorne.

The old hands - "My son is 10 next week" - secure a coveted 'gate spot' up to half an hour ahead of their rivals leaving the rest of the pack to fight it out further down the road where a 10-minute wait awaits

BY GARY FINN

the loser. Then for 15 minutes the balmy summer afternoon is destroyed by the sound of crunched gears, revved engines and squealing brakes as the parents, with their children safely belted up in the back, head off into the fledgling rush hour.

It is a time consuming, labour intensive and expensive way to travel a handful of miles. It is also a scene repeated all over Britain twice a

day, five days a week, for the bulk of the year - and is at the heart of the car dependency culture which John Prescott hopes his Transport White Paper will change.

But the Deputy Prime Minister's plans to wean parents off the school run with more cycle lanes, buses and traffic calming schemes, are unlikely to change the ways of Crowthorne's parents.

Edna Samuel picks up her five-year-old granddaughter Bethany from the school. It is

the only time she uses a car. She said: "Bethany lives nine miles away in Bracknell. There's no way she could walk it - she's only five."

"Even if they built a cycle lane I don't think we'd let her use it. It would have to run from very near her home right up to the school and I cannot see that happening."

As for buses they're hopeless - there isn't any that come this way, so what are you supposed to do?

"And in this day and age, it's

not safe for a five-year-old girl on the street. I don't even leave her at the school gate, I walk her right up to the class room. I think most parents feel that way."

Those fears were echoed by the other parents on yesterday's run who were not convinced the Government could deliver.

Another parent, Carol Baldry, pointed to cycling proficiency - it was not taught at Oaklands until year 6 - the year the pupils leave.

"I, for one, would not feel that confident in letting my children near the kinds of roads we have today without a certificate."

But perhaps the biggest stumbling block to Mr Prescott's grand design is the simplest.

Carol Cutting, a mother with three children and a Range Rover said: "If I walked with my children it would take nearly an hour. If I come by car it's 10 minutes."

"No contest really."

Welcome to Lille, transport heaven

BRITISH commuters might be persuaded to leave their cars at home if they knew just what a joy the alternatives to sitting in traffic jams can be. Listen to the inhabitants of Lille in northern France who appear to have created public transport heaven.

"It's the ambience I love," says Sylvie Moerman, a 20-something secretary at the futuristic glass-roofed Lille Europe station in central Lille - a station that is linked to the Eurostar and national TGV network.

"The speed and the frequency are fantastic but you also feel safe. It's clean, pleasant, airy and you know the train will stop if for any reason you press the button to call for help."

She is talking about "Le Val", the high-tech underground metro system which

BY KATHERINE BUTLER
in Lille

opened 15 years ago and has become the backbone of a rail and road transport concept which even by French standards is exceptional.

Even at rush hour commuters never have to wait for more than one minute for a train. Each station has been designed by a different architect. Lifts make access simple. You step on at ground level which makes life easy for mothers with prams or wheelchair users; there are no turnstiles; instead teams of ticket inspectors roam the network at random.

But the most distinctive feature of Le Val is that the trains appear to be driven by ghosts. Lille's metro was the first fully automated transport system in the world and has now been

copied in a handful of other French cities, in Chicago and Taiwan.

The driverless trains allow frequency to be increased or cut according to demand. During the city's annual fair the metro runs 24 hours a day.

The Lille agglomeration has more than one million inhabitants. It was the foresight of transport planners at the Lille "Urban Community" that led to this city becoming a model for getting people out of their cars.

They developed not just Le Val but a coherent bus and tram network, an attractive simple and pricing policy - the same ticket takes you anywhere in the agglomeration and is valid on metro, tram or bus.

Bus and tram timetables are co-ordinated and motorists can leave their vehicles in huge guarded car parks at strategic points on the periphery of the area.

For the price of two metro tickets people living on certain bus routes can call on special taxis from a special calling point on the side of the road.

It cost 500m francs (£53m) a year to run the whole network, but that is mostly covered by the standard ticket price of 70p. No advertising is allowed in the stations.

But the Lille transport chiefs are not resting on their laurels. They are about to launch an ambitious 20-year plan which has the aim of doubling the



Life in Lille, a city striving successfully to reduce reliance on the car

Impact

number of public transport users and cutting reliance on private vehicles either by families or businesses to a minimum.

A massive network of cycle lanes is planned and city dwellers will soon be able to rent publicly owned bikes to get them from A to B.

"We don't expect anybody to cycle 20 kilometres but we want to incite people to use bicycles on short journeys," says Claudie Leclercq at the Urban Community.

She admits that the French mentality, like the British, still needs to be changed. "We have got a great public transport system but whatever we do there are still people who want to use their cars," she says. "These are the people we are now targeting in the next phase."

In addition to cycle lanes there will be radical traffic-calming measures throughout the city, reining in the surviving motorists by cutting speeds to a maximum of 30 kilometres an hour.

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DAVID AARONOVITCH

I am one of Prescott's problems. Until I was 30 I rode a bike to work. And then I bought a Ford Escort, and never got on the bike again

— THE TUESDAY REVIEW, PAGE 3

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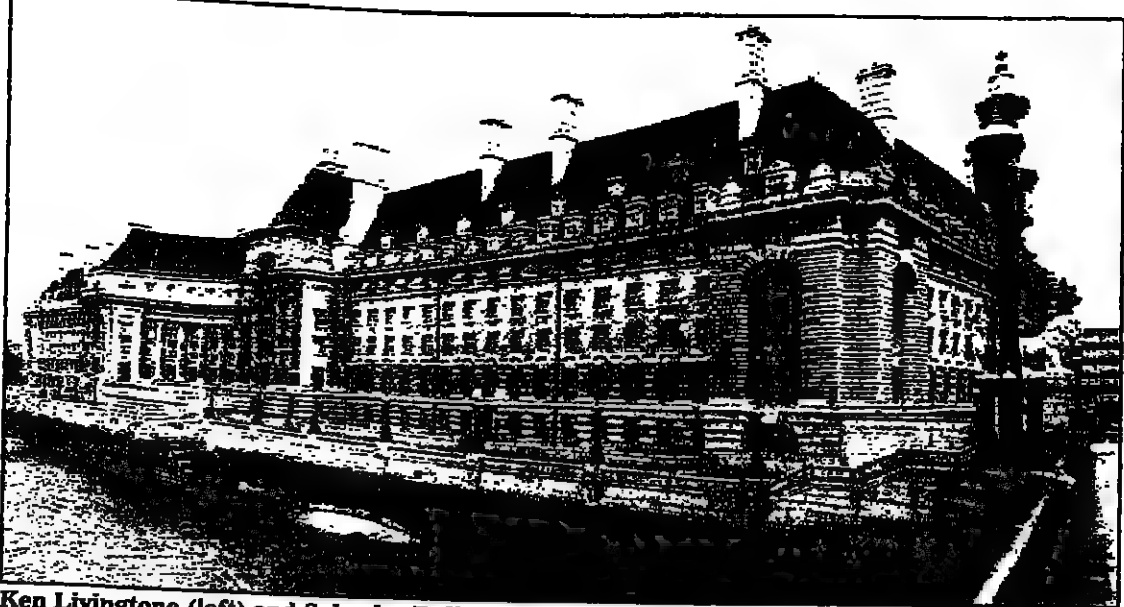
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Clare Short, the Secretary of State for International Development, is said to travel to work by bus, but she does own two cars - a Carlton estate and a Cavalier saloon.

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Official: County Hall is still the headquarters of surrealism



Ken Livingstone (left) and Salvador Dali with his sculptures (far right) will both have brought, in their own ways, a little colour to the grey stones of County Hall

LONDON'S HISTORIC County Hall could become Britain's first Salvador Dali Museum. Talks are under way to house up to 60 sculptures by the celebrated Spanish surrealist in the former home of the GLC.

Part of the museum's plans would be to plunge a section of the erstwhile centre of London local government into semi-darkness with quirky music playing to reflect the surrealist's dreamlike artistic fantasies.

County Hall, where Ken Livingstone's left-wing GLC so alarmed Margaret Thatcher that she abolished it, is now owned by a Japanese company that opened an aquarium there as a tourist attraction. But there is room next to the aquarium for a large exhibition space.

However, some of Dali's sculptures are so large that it would have to be partly rebuilt.

BY DAVID LISTER
Arts News Editor

And as part of the Dali assault on London, a request has also been made to Westminster Council to put one of his more extravagantly surreal sculptures, *The Space Elephant*, next to the statue of Sir Winston Churchill in Parliament Square. The elephant sculpture has been exhibited in the Place Vendôme in Paris in the past.

It is the permanent museum at County Hall that is the more serious plan, however.

The initiative comes from the Stratton Foundation, which is actually two Dali collectors, the husband-and-wife team of Benjamin and Roberta Levi, who are based in Italy. Mr Levi knew the late artist and set out to buy all his sculptures. He owns at least 80, as well as

many illustrations and some paintings. Most have never been shown in London.

The Dali Museum at County Hall would contain virtually all of the sculptures and illustrations, as well as Dali's largest painting, *Popillon*, 20.5m wide and 5.2m high, dating from 1944. The Levis have appointed Victoria Collobb-East, a consultant in fine art, as director-designate of the museum.

She said: "Mr and Mrs Levi want to open a Dali Museum in London because London is where it's all happening for the art scene. I have spoken to the owners of County Hall and they would appear to be keen to have

us there. We're looking for a really exciting space, and we are also interested in getting a Dali sculpture in Parliament Square."

She added that the Dali Museum would "be very dark; it would have Dali's voice on tape and quirky music. Dali is fun, and we would hope to attract a lot of children."

County Hall is owned by a Japanese family firm headed by businessman Mac Okamoto. A number of other leisure attractions are already planned.

Mr Okamoto has also offered to continue County Hall tradition by letting the new Mayor of London reside there, but the offer has been declined.

Police in abuse inquiry censured

BY LOUISE JURY

TWO POLICE officers have been censured and their force told to improve procedures after an investigation into the handling of the Buckinghamshire abuse scandal.

But the inquiry supervised by the Police Complaints Authority concluded there was no evidence that police neglected their duty in the case of abuse at two residential homes in Stoke Poges.

Three former care workers were convicted last year of offences of ill-treating and neglecting mentally disabled adults at the homes run by Gordon Rowe and his company, Longcare.

Angry relatives of the residents demanded to know why it took so long for the staff to be prosecuted when police had first been alerted to concerns at the homes in 1993. The scandal was exposed by *The Independent* the following year.

The families said Rowe was friendly with police officers and suspect this was why the allegations were not initially taken seriously.

Rowe killed himself before he could be charged with raping and assaulting residents.

A complaints authority spokesman said yesterday: "There was no evidence to suggest that officers neglected their duty, but clearly inappropriate decisions were taken. It was decided there should be a review of the way in which police and social services operate, the end being to prevent a recurrence."

In addition, the authority decided a sergeant should be "admonished" over residents working on his private home.

A detective chief inspector was also admonished for going to the homes and "warning residents about their alleged criminal behaviour" and for using the police's national

computer to carry out checks for Rowe.

An admonishment is not formal disciplining and does not go on the officers' career records.

Superintendent Geoff Alcraft, head of Thames Valley police's complaints and discipline department, said it had asked the authority to supervise what was an internal force inquiry.

The problems with the policemen who were admonished had no bearing on the investigation into the activities of Rowe at the homes, he said.

Thames Valley police and the social services were now looking at how they should liaise over such cases.

At the time of the allegations, there were set procedures for joint action on cases involving children, but not for vulnerable adults.

June Rayband, of the Justice for Longcare Survivors campaign, said it remained "very cross" about the police's failure to act in 1993, although the eventual investigation had been "marvellous".

Senior officers from Thames Valley are due to meet the families of former residents in September when they will pursue their concerns.

Ms Rayband said: "We can't really lay all this to rest until we know the details of what happened and we know that appropriate action has been taken."

"I think the officers deserve more than admonishment. If you have the police coming in and telling the residents off then they were going along with Gordon Rowe. That's why people didn't report what was going on."

She noted that it was Jon Bound, the now retired superintendent who successfully brought the case to court, who had raised the alarm about the way the matter was initially handled.

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DONALD MACINTYRE
Does Tony Blair dare to boldly go where his predecessors have resolutely failed to do and cut the number of ministers in his reshuffle?

— THE TUESDAY REVIEW, PAGE 4 ➔

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BY PAUL MCCANN
Media Editor

"We are not saying broadcasters have to cut down on the amount of violence. We are saying let's give the public more information so they can

The statement of common principle includes undertakings that the portrayal of violence should always be editorially or dramatically justifiable; that programmes avoid suggesting violence as an appropriate solution to problems; and that in reporting or depicting violent crime, programmes should avoid glamorising it or promoting fear of crime.



BY PAUL MCCANN

Demmond Wilcox, husband of Esther Rantzen and the producer of *That's Life* and *Man Alive*, whom Ms Ford once worked for, is described as terribly bad-tempered, but she saves her ire for the kind of shows he produced: "I worry about the vulgarity of seeing

ANNA'S ATTACK

- Sir John Birt: "Pathetic"
- Sir David Frost: "Can take a running jump"
- Desmond Wilcox: "Tough old thing with a temper"
- Throwing wine over Jonathan Aitken: "I consider that good taste, not bad temper"
- Saying "shit" on the Today programme: "We have such political correctness in this country. It drives me potty and makes me want to take off my clothes and swear very loudly in public."

Ms Ford was hardly less sympathetic about the listeners to the Today programme on Radio 4 who complained last year when she described The Archers character Simon Pemberton as a "shit" at 8am: "I understand it might upset certain people at that time in the morning. We have such political correctness in this country it drives me potty and makes me want to take off all my clothes and swear very loudly in public."

A BBC spokesman said of the interview: "All the events reported took place some time ago, and those that related to the BBC were dealt with at the time."

BY BARRIE CLEMENT
Labour Editor

While John Monks, the general secretary of the TUC, diplomatically described the meeting as "useful", it was clear that Mr Brown had given them nothing.

Mr Monks, who led a delegation involving representa-



John Redwood, the Conservative trade and industry spokesman, later said a major rift had developed between the Chancellor and the union movement. "Mr Brown is falling out with the unions in a

It is understood that doctors are resisting any attempt by the Government to create a system for all NHS employees. Nurses' representatives are also keen to keep their pay system separate from other non-professional staff.

BY RACHEL ELLIE

More than 14 "test-tube" babies and their parents from around the country attended

"I hope that this will promote IVF as a mainstream treat-

Ms. Jewell said: "As a government, we very much want to do three things. We want to end the geographical lottery in terms of services. We want to do everything possible to ensure that the treatment that is given to women and men is based on the very best evidence that will work, and we want to make sure that as we face the enormous

Although Louise, of Bristol, was unable to attend the party, she sent a message of support. She said: "I'm glad Mum and Dad were given the opportunity of having IVF 20 years ago. "I wish this was available to all who need it now."

What's love got to do with it? Review, page 5

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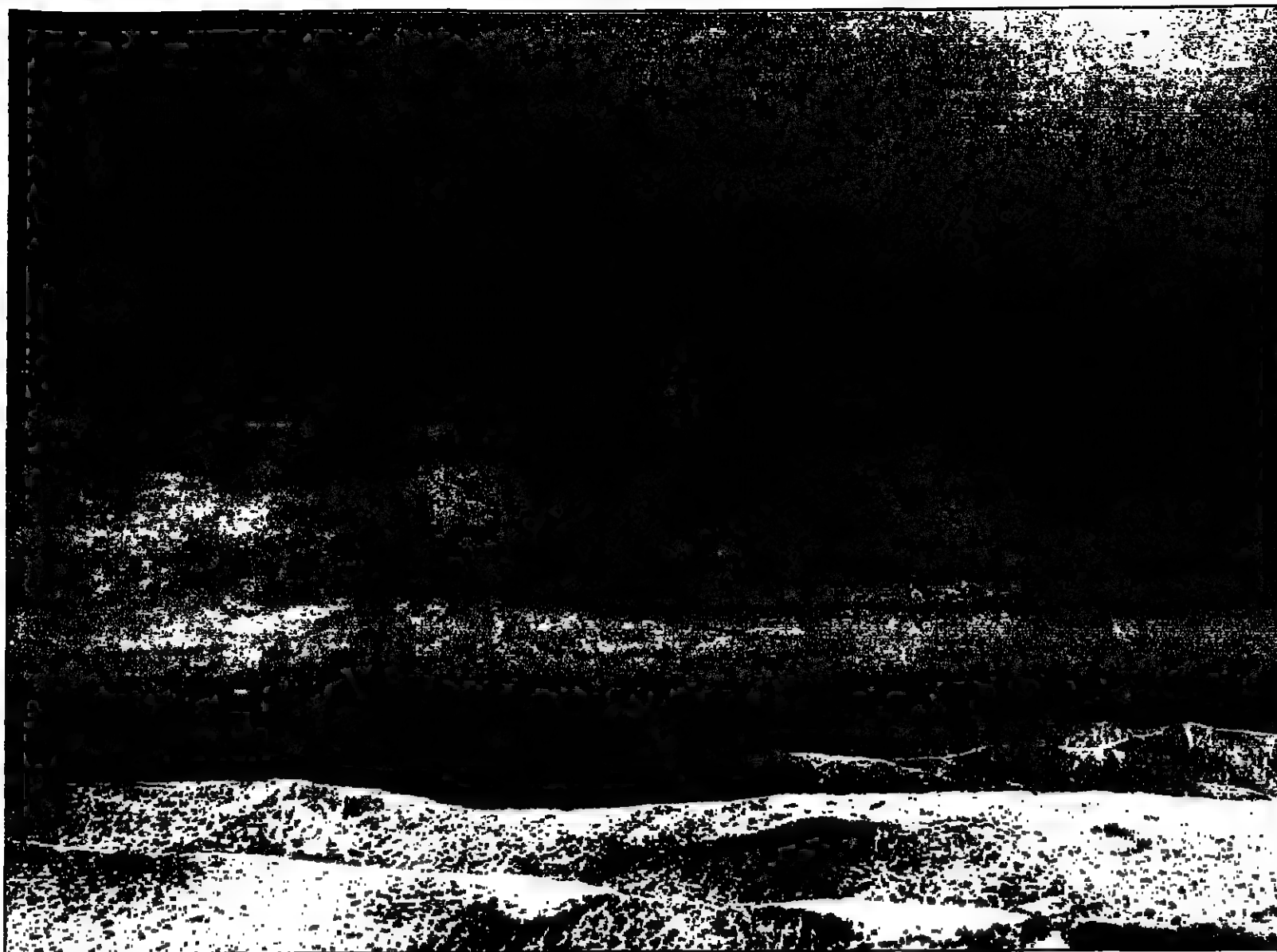
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Tidal wave of death may reach 3,000



An aerial view of Sissano in West Sepik Province after a tidal wave demolished villages killing hundreds of people. Campbell Scott/Reuters

THE DEAD were still floating in the lagoons and mangrove swamps of the Bismark Sea along Papua New Guinea's north-west coast last night as fears increased that the toll from the tidal waves that hit the region four days ago could reach 3,000.

Although rescue workers had recovered 700 victims yesterday, most of whom were buried in the sand where they lay to avoid the spread of disease in the tropical heat, there were serious concerns that hundreds more villagers who are still unaccounted for could also be dead.

The most grim prediction came from John Tekwie, the provincial governor of the Sepik River district where three tidal waves struck last Friday night after an earthquake under the ocean a few kilometres offshore, registered at seven on the Richter scale. The waves are known as tsunamis, a Japanese word meaning "harbour wave" and are caused by undersea disturbances.

Mr Tekwie, who visited the demolished villages, said: "I would give you a near-accurate estimate of 3,000 [dead]." He said he believed most of the people who fled into the jungle after the tidal wave were dead. "Many bodies are still stuck in the debris, within mangrove swamps and the lagoon itself, caught between debris from the buildings and coconut trees and all the trees thrown into the lagoon. It's so difficult at this stage."

Austen Crapp, an Australian Catholic priest from the village of Aitape, near where the waves struck, was slightly less pessimistic. He said that he and fellow rescuers believed that at least half the 6,000 people who

BY ROBERT MILLIKEN
in Sydney

lived along the coast had survived. "We thought the death toll might top 2,000 at the most," he said. "I hope 2,000 isn't correct. But I fear it might be."

Dickson Dalle, a Papua New Guinea disaster relief co-ordinator, said: "It's very difficult to identify the dead, because most of them are buried in mud and sand. Most have floated into the open sea. Those still in the lagoon are rotting away."

It now appears that the waves, about 10m high, hit with their greatest force at Sissano, a lagoon about 2km wide formed by an earthquake 88 years ago. The thin strip of sand that separates the lagoon from the ocean is where hundreds of villagers lived in wooden houses with roofs made from tin and jungle foliage and built on stilts to keep them above the ocean's tidal flows.

In the path of the tidal waves, which were as big as the tallest coconut trees fringing the coast, the houses were turned into matchwood, battered and sucked into the swirling ocean with their inhabitants.

At least seven villages, some perched on the side of the lagoon, were destroyed: Sissano, Teles, Arop, Illi, Warapu, Malol and Pera Nambis.

"Their houses were destroyed, their families were destroyed. They were just blown into the lagoon," said Robert Parer, an Australian plantation owner whose family have lived in the Sepik district for about 40 years.

For the survivors, most of whom are still too numb and shocked to come to terms with

the trauma, an international rescue effort was at last starting to bring some relief yesterday. The Australian air force landed three Hercules aircraft at Vanimo, a township about 100km west of Sissano.

The aircraft unloaded a field hospital, to which survivors were ferried in helicopters and in the backs of pick-up trucks over a rough coastal road that was reopened yesterday after being damaged by the tsunami. One of the helicopters was a Russian-built aircraft owned by a mining company in the Papua New Guinea central highlands, which sent it to the disaster zone laden with food and medicine. Two others belonged to the Missionary Aviation Fellowship, whose base is in Vanimo.

Six makeshift medical centres were operating between Vanimo and Aitape last night, trying to repair the bruised and broken bodies of survivors whose limbs were smashed by trees and wreckage hurled against them by the tsunami.

About 70 Australian soldiers distributed food, water and medical supplies and searched the jungle for survivors. The New Zealand defence force also sent two Hercules aircraft, and offers of help came from Japan and South Korea. But after the survivors have been treated, a monumental task awaits the authorities in building new homes for the thousands who have been left with nothing.

John Howard, the Australian Prime Minister, said: "I know that all Australians will feel for the people of Papua New Guinea in this appalling natural disaster. As a neighbour, close friend and helper we will do all we can."

Millions stranded by rising Yangtze

THE RISING flood waters of the Yangtze river could threaten the Three Gorges Dam construction site if this year's flood crest passed by the dam site on Friday evening with water flowing at a rate of 50,000 cubic metres per second, the highest level since the diversion of the Yangtze behind the newly built coffer dam last November.

All navigation along the Three Gorges Dam stretch of the river has now been suspended, with both the temporary water diversion channel and the shipping lock closed to vessels because of the strong water flow. More than 100,000 passengers from Yangtze ferry boats were stranded over the past week.

China's flood season still has some weeks to run, but already 1,000 people have been killed and about 7 million stranded. Sun Shaocheng, deputy director of the Department of Disaster and Social Relief, said this year's flooding was "unprecedentedly and unexpectedly severe".

The middle reaches of the 6,400-km Yangtze have seen

BY TERESA POOLE
in Peking

some of the highest water levels and, for the first time, China's hydro-engineers have the challenge of protecting the vast 217.5bn dam construction site from floods. "Crest may challenge coffer dam", was this weekend's unusually frank main China Daily headline.

Officials said Friday night's crest passed through the man-made channel without damage. But Ge Shouxi, chief engineer of the hydrological bureau of the Yangtze River Water Conservancy Commission, said: "Construction of the Three Gorges project would be suspended if water flows reach 65,000 cubic metres per second, the maximum flood peak the coffer dam of the Three Gorges project is able to bear." Water flow at the end of June was about 22,500 cubic metres per second.

The coffer dam, which spans the river upstream from the planned main dam wall, blocks the natural flow of the Yangtze and diverts the river through a new 3.5km man-made channel.

It is this, and a temporary shiplock, which have been closed to vessels.

The massive earthworks of the coffer dam seal off a dry area of river bed where the 175 metre-high main dam wall and the hydropower structures are now being built. Any flooding of the actual construction site would be highly disruptive. The dam is due to be completed in 2009.

If the heavy rains continue in the higher reaches of the Yangtze, the next flood crest could swell to even more powerful levels. Downstream from the dam site, the vulnerable region of Jiangxi, in Jiangxi province, is already experiencing record dangerous high-water levels, which are threatening the limits of the flood control works there. Some 300,000 local residents face evacuation if the level rises much higher.

Total economic losses in China from the floods so far this year are estimated at 85.6 billion yuan (\$6.6 billion), and 9 million hectares of crop land will have their production cut by at least one third.

Talks resume in Middle East

BY PATRICK COCKBURN
in Jerusalem

ISRAELIS AND Palestinians have resumed talks for the first time in 16 months, as Israeli security tries to discover if Sunday's attempted car-bomb attack in Jerusalem is the beginning of a new suicide bombing campaign by Palestinian militants.

The Palestinians are only taking part in fresh talks at the urging of the United States.

After meeting with Abu Mazen, a senior lieutenant of the Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, Yitzhak Mordechai, the Israeli Defence Minister, said: "There is still a lot of work to do. I don't want to create illusions."

When Mr Arafat was asked about the talks, he simply said: "Nothing."

Both sides in the talks want the US to blame the other for a break-down in peace negotiations.

Israel says it wants more security measures, which the Palestinians see as an excuse to procrastinate and renegotiate

ate treaties that have already been signed.

Meanwhile, Israeli police are waiting to question Jalal Rahman Sirhan, who is still in hospital after an apparent premature explosion in a white van he was driving down Jaffa road in the centre of Jerusalem on Sunday morning.

He received burns over most of his body and it will be some days before police can ask him if he was a suicide bomber, acting on orders from Hamas, the Islamic militant organisation.

Mr Sirhan, 29, who has three children, lives in the al-Amri refugee camp north of Ramallah. He served 20 months in an Israeli prison after being convicted in 1990 of Hamas membership.

The van he was driving contained 600 litres of inflammable liquid, three gas canisters and dozens of kilos of nails, according to Israeli police.

At 8.15 on Sunday morning passers-by noticed a fire had started in the van, which was stopped at a traffic light near Zion Square in Jerusalem, and pulled Mr Sirhan free.

Volcano villagers return

BY IRWAN FIRDAUS

MORE THAN 3,000 villagers returned home yesterday when volcanic activity on Mount Merapi in Java subsided.

Four villages on the slopes of Indonesia's most active volcano had been evacuated on Sunday after the mountain threw up two huge clouds of hot gas, and lava and ash poured from the crater.

Volcanologists said activity within the 9,737-ft peak has been building for weeks. Despite the respite yesterday, they fear that a big eruption is still possible.

Merapi is in the middle of Central Java, one of the world's most densely populated regions.

"People have returned home but there is still some danger. So they are still on alert," Kandari, a civil defence official said.

Merapi is regarded as the most dangerous of Indonesia's 500 volcanoes. Its most destructive eruption this century was in 1930, when 1,300 people were killed.

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مكتبة من الأصل



Greek Panayiota Pavlou Solomou holds photographs of her son, husband and 12 other relatives who were detained by Turkish troops at the time of the invasion of Cyprus and have not been seen since. Turks have been celebrating the 24th anniversary of their invasion
Philip Mark/AP

Serbs take hold in chaos of Kosovo

AS FIGHTING raged across Kosovo yesterday, Serb forces claimed to have regained full control of Orahovac, 40 miles south-west of the provincial capital Pristina - thus denying ethnic Albanian rebels what would have been their biggest prize of the five-month war.

Sporadic gunfire was still to be heard around Orahovac and roadblocks sealed off the town, whose normal population is 20,000, from the outside world. But guerrillas in the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) said the Serbs were now using artillery to quell the fighting.

It is beyond doubt that the battles of the last few days in Orahovac and elsewhere have been among the fiercest since February. Serbian forces killed 90 KLA fighters, while some 40 Serbian troops have been taken prisoner. There have also been reports of summary executions of ethnic Albanians by security

BY RUPERT CORNWELL

forces. If so, the death toll since February will be more than 400 - and the military escalation shows every sign continuing.

In the past week, tens of thousands of new refugees have fled to the neighbouring Yugoslav republic of Montenegro. New Serb detachments - including 50 armoured vehicles this weekend alone, according to one Belgrade daily - are being despatched to Kosovo. For their part, the rebels are now threatening to deploy heavier weapons.

Indeed, one KLA commander spoke of a "new type of war, which will end up in Pristina". Most alarming of all for the Western powers, the nightmare possibility of a war spilling over beyond the borders of Yugoslavia seems to be moving closer. Serb authorities claimed 16 "foreigners" were among

the Albanians involved in the clashes at the weekend - five of them from Macedonia, a quarter of whose population is of Albanian extraction. It was unclear how many had been killed or captured.

As for the diplomatic exchanges between Belgrade and Tirana, these are starting to sound like the verbal prelude to war. Albania accuses the Yugoslav forces of "barbarian acts" in firing two mortar shells into its territory. Belgrade retorts that the government in Tirana, by allowing weapons and men across its frontier to join the KLA, was tolerating "terrorist activities" and "grave violations of the state border".

All of which makes the international peace-making effort more urgent, yet more difficult, by the day. It also further reduces the room for manoeuvre of Ibrahim Rugova, the Albanian political leader

who advocates a non-violent solution to the crisis, but whose prestige has been sapped by the battlefield successes of the KLA.

Greece, which has enjoyed reasonable relations with Albania and is traditionally close to the orthodox Serbia, again offered its services as a mediator yesterday, but perhaps the most hopeful longer-term development came from the Hague, where Serbian politicians opposed to President Slobodan Milosevic met Robert Gelbard, the chief US envoy to the Balkans.

The discussions, according to Mr Gelbard, focused less on the crisis in Kosovo than the political and economic dead end Serbia had reached under Mr Milosevic. A way out will not be found overnight, but for the first time in 18 months his opponents are making common cause against him.

The many faces of an oil supremo

BY RUPERT CORNWELL

THE FAST, they say, is another country. And in the case of Heydar Aliyev it is, literally.

I last set eyes on him in Moscow 11 years ago, full member of the Politburo and master of the bleak and crumbling Soviet universe. Fast forward to July 1998. The setting has moved from Red Square to Claridge's in Mayfair. It is the same Aliyev. Only this time he is President of the Republic of Azerbaijan and, as leader of one of the great emerging oil powers, the honoured guest of Her Majesty's government.

Some things of course have not changed. He still wears the quietly self-satisfied look and the dark blue suit beloved by pillars of the old Communist nomenclatura. He still answers questions in the rolling, circuitous fashion they taught at district committee meetings of the CPSU. And just as a party boss once did, he comes complete with a retinue of courtiers, hanging on his every word.

But his hosts will be listening no less attentively. Mr Aliyev is here this week talking the geo-politics of ever unstable Transcaucasia. He will offer a neighbour's practised judgement on the crisis in Russia. He will seek support in Azerbaijan's decade-old conflict with Armenia over the enclave of Nagorno Karabakh. Above all, though, he will be talking oil: of plans, pipelines, and, most immediately, three contracts due for signature this week with BP, Ramco and Monument Oil and Gas, worth more than \$5bn (\$3.1bn).

Successively KGB general and ruthless political enforcer, then party boss, then apostate of Communism and Azeri patriot, at 75 Aliyev has donned yet another mantle, of elder statesman and potentate of the international energy market.

The earlier incarnations have either been expunged or rewritten. Not a word do you hear of Aliyev's flattery of Brezhnev - the speech in which he mentioned Leonid Ilyich's name 100 times; the gift of a jewel consisting of a single large diamond representing Brezhnev, surrounded by 15 far smaller ones denoting the 15 constituent republics of the Soviet Union; the palace he built in Baku solely to house Brezhnev during a two-day visit.

But wasn't Aliyev kicked out of the Politburo in October 1987, because he epitomised the corruption and "old thinking" of which Gorbachev sought to purge the party? Well, not exactly, it seems. He "resigned" because he believed the party's nationalities policy was "unjust". Even in the good times of the mid-Eighties, during May day and October Revolution parades when he took the

salute on Lenin's mausoleum, "I dreamt of an independent Azerbaijan... my main purpose as a top official in Moscow was to serve my people."

But whether cowed Soviet republic or modern oil state, Azerbaijan was and is Aliyev's fiefdom. Yes, there are Presidential elections this autumn, five years after he took power "to fill a political vacuum" (less squeamish souls prefer to call it a coup). Their result, he says, "depends not on me, but on the electorate, the voters". He is too modest.

In case extra insurance were needed, rivals like Abulfaz Elchibey, the former President whom Aliyev replaced in 1993, are under criminal investigation, while human rights groups complain of the "treason trials" faced by his personal enemies, his repression of free speech, and the brutal treatment of political prisoners.



Heydar Aliyev: From the KGB to Claridge's

November's victor is not in doubt. "But who knows," one Western diplomat in Baku muses. "Even if he wins 90 per cent of the vote, that might not be far off the truth."

For whatever Aliyev's sins, he is an operator. Unlike his neighbours, he has managed to rid his country of the Russian military. Armenia and Georgia both have Russian troops on their territory, but this only lessens their independence. Moscow proposed they send troops to Azerbaijan as well, to help guard our borders. But we said no. That's why they're unhappy with me in Russia.

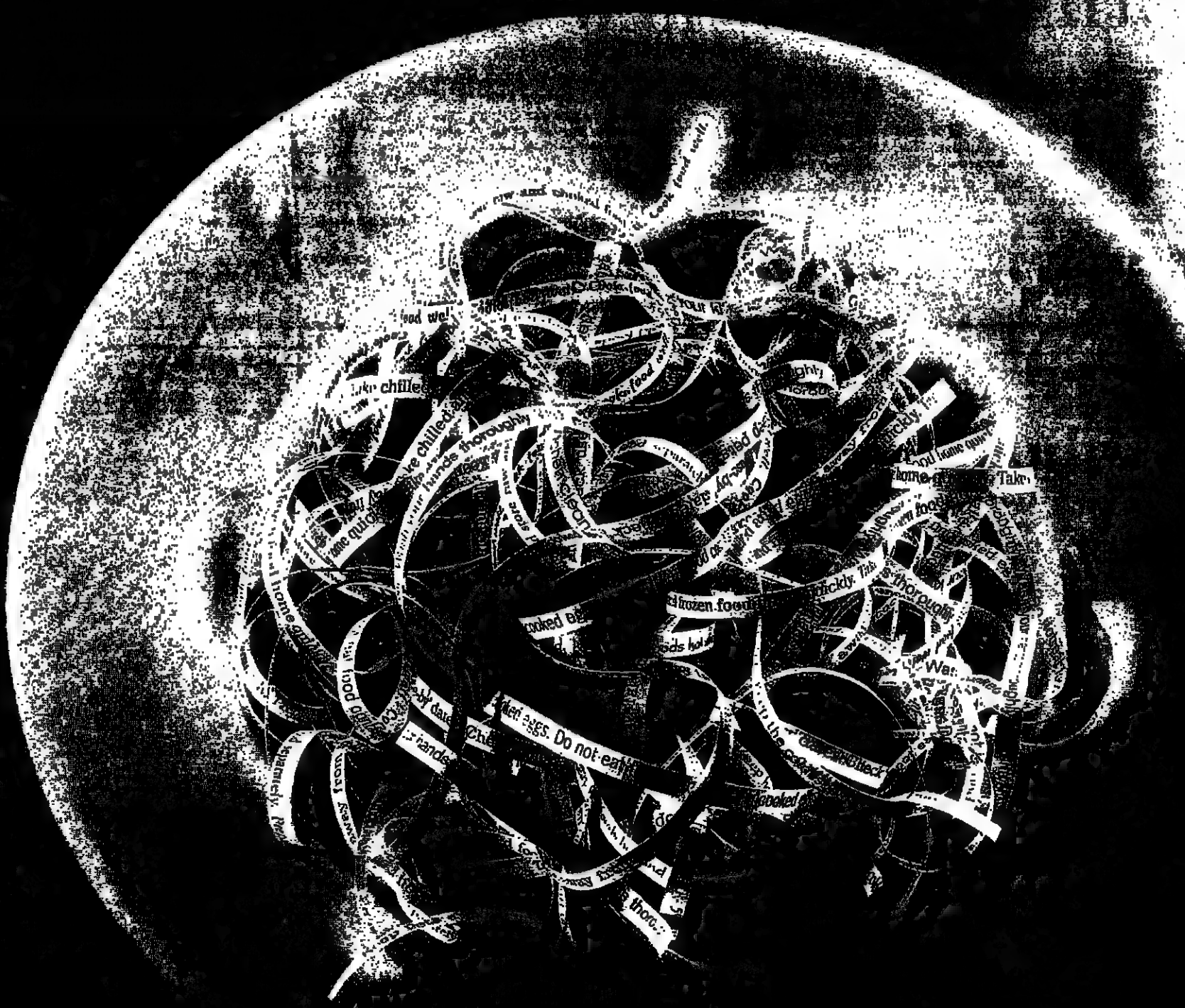
Not that he wants a specific security pact with the West to balance Moscow's influence, even though he is keen on greater co-operation with Nato under its Partnership for Peace programme. "If I criticise Armenia for its alliance with Russia," he points out, "then I shouldn't get into alliances myself." But his real calculation is more subtle: the closer the economic and political ties with the West, the safer he will be. And that, apart from the oil contracts of course, is why he's in London.

JACQUELINE LAING

"We risk becoming a society which caters to the manufacturing zeal of the new biotechnocrats"

— THE TUESDAY REVIEW, PAGE 5 ➔

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Police interrogate leader of Belgian anti-porn group

A MEMBER of the Morkhoven Belgian anti-pornography group, which tipped off Dutch police about an international child-pornography network, is being questioned for a second time, Belgian police said.

Earlier yesterday Marcel Vervloesen, a member of the group, said it would not hand over crucial evidence to the authorities after Belgian and

By CAROLINE JACOBS

Dutch police raided its headquarters on Sunday and questioned him.

A spokesman for the national gendarmerie in Turnhout said: "He is being questioned at the moment." He would not confirm or deny reports that Dutch police were negotiating with the group to

obtain the material on a voluntary basis. Rather than handing evidence to the Dutch police, the Morkhoven group, based in Antwerp, plans to make pornographic computer images and lists of alleged paedophiles' names and addresses available to human-rights organisations. "We are launching a counter-attack," Mr Vervloesen said. "Through

human-rights organisations in several European cities... we will give free the identities of people involved." The group said it was in touch with several rights groups but declined to elaborate. The raids on the Morkhoven headquarters and Mr Vervloesen's house came after the group on Saturday withdrew an earlier offer to hand over dossiers giving

names of people who allegedly accessed the pornographic images via computer.

Morkhoven found the lists of names in a flat in the Dutch coastal town of Zandvoort and tipped off the Dutch police. But the offer was withdrawn after the anti-porn group's reputation had been called into question. "They have been at my house and in the [Antwerp] of-

fice [with the the Morkhoven chairman, Jan Boeykens] ... looking for pornographic material," Mr Vervloesen said.

"They searched the homes but found nothing," Mr Vervloesen said he and Mr Boeykens were questioned by Belgian police late on Sunday night. Police took away a computer, which was returned after an hour. "We took precautionary

measures and brought the evidence [in the pornography inquiry] to a safe place," he said.

Dutch police, who last week launched an investigation into the suspected international child-abuse ring, were expected to return to Antwerp to ask the Morkhoven group to accompany them to the Netherlands. "We will not meet their request," Mr Vervloesen said.

Morkhoven is well-known in Belgium for its campaign to expose child pornographers, but has been criticised for aggressive tactics. It claims to have thousands of photos showing children as young as 18 months being raped and hundreds of names and addresses in various countries of suspected users and those involved in taking the pictures.

Pakistan: Factional killings and looming economic meltdown combine to bring the spectre of civil disaster

Karachi gripped by gang warfare

KARACHI IS Pakistan's biggest city, its only port and its commercial and industrial hub. It used to be the capital, too. Yet it has become apparent this summer how prescient Pakistan's politicians were when in 1963 they moved en masse to the new garden capital of Islamabad, as Karachi has disappeared once again beneath a haze of gunsmoke.

More than 230 people have been killed in the city since the last week of May in factional butchery between rival gangs of *mohajir*. Muslims who migrated from India to Pakistan at the time of partition and who are now the city's largest ethnic group. Violence has erupted often in the city in the past 50 years, but this outbreak is said to be the most brutal.

Karachi's problems began with the arrival, after the blood-letting of partition, of hundreds of thousands of Muslim refugees from India (*mohajir* means "refugee"). They started to fight the city's traditionally dominant group, the Sindhis, for jobs and political control. A cycle of violence began and has never really stopped.

Today, however, the main antagonists are all *mohajir*: their main political force, called MQM - Mohajir Qaumi Movement - locked in combat with a breakaway faction of the same, MQM-Haqiqi. A third breakaway group, called BACK (Basic Association for the Citizens of Karachi), has entered the fray in the past month, led by a man who used to be known as the MQM's "killing machine".

Many of the recent killings have come in hit-and-run attacks, but when one side or another takes enemies prisoner, they murder them with the utmost cruelty. Each faction has set up "slaughterhouses"

By PETER POPHAM
in Islamabad

where enemies are systematically tortured to death: bones broken, jaws dislocated, tongues cut off, eyes gouged out. The mutilated corpses are stuffed into sacks or plastic bags and left on rubbish dumps. The aim of the torture is not to elicit information but to instil terror and put a "signature" on the killings.

For Karachi, the year of living peacefully (by Karachi's standards) is well and truly over. Murders of this sort had been a daily occurrence during Benazir Bhutto's last period as prime minister, and were often interpreted as a reaction by *mohajir* against Sindhi central rule (the Bhuttos and most supporters of their party, the Pakistan People's Party, are from the Sindhi region).

With Ms Bhutto's removal in November 1996, however, the main cause of *mohajir* fury seemed to have gone, and the city returned to something like peace. Last October, Karachi was considered safe enough for the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh to visit during their sub-continental tour, albeit at speed and mostly inside a bullet-proof Range Rover.

The calm held for the first half of this year, with the exception of occasional bloody incidents. Then at the end of May, just before Pakistan conducted its nuclear tests, a senior figure in the Haqiqi faction was shot dead, and the city was soon back to "normal".

What are the authorities doing about it? A heavily armed force known as the Rangers mans dozens of checkpoints around the city, with the guards hauling in hundreds of suspects for interrogation. But the chief minister of Sindh, Liaquat



A Pakistani trader chants slogans during a protest march in Karachi yesterday against the imposition of a General Sales Tax, which was introduced by the Sharif government effective from 1 July.

Jatoi, is widely written off as ineffective, and there is a danger that Karachi's present violence could degenerate into something far worse.

The original political force of the *mohajir*, MQM, has been brought into the government; its rivals, meanwhile, are believed by some local experts to be armed and sponsored by Pakistani intelligence outfits, who use them as proxy forces to prevent MQM taking over the city. The Rangers and the mili-

tants, meanwhile, stand eyeball to eyeball. The Rangers have so far done little beyond arresting people but, if they got the order to raise the stakes, the precedent is there. In 1995, when Ms Bhutto clamped down on the city, hundreds of suspected militants were killed by the authorities in extrajudicial executions.

The fear often expressed by Pakistani commentators is that one day, bucking under the stress of endless bloodshed and mayhem, Karachi will turn into

another Beirut or Sarajevo. At present it resembles neither of those cities. For all the terrible deeds and frightening statistics, these are largely outlaws murdering outlaws in the grungy districts of an enormous and still dynamic, bustling and modern metropolis.

But worse problems loom. In recent weeks, half a dozen international airlines, including British Airways, have announced that they are pulling out of the city. Pakistan as a

'Our country needs a fairy godmother to pay its debts'

By JASON BURKE
in Islamabad

SIX WEEKS ago the people of Pakistan thronged the streets of big cities, handing out sweets to celebrate the nuclear tests that they felt had catapulted their nation into the front rank of global powers.

Now, even before the sanctions imposed by the West take effect, the country is facing its worst economic crisis and the government is more unpopular than ever.

Faced with a critical lack of foreign exchange and massive debt repayments due by the end of the month, Sartaj Aziz, Pakistan's Finance Minister, has said that a default on all or part of the country's \$20bn debt is likely unless a bail-out can be arranged.

Pakistan's foreign currency reserves leave Mr Aziz with a hard choice. If he uses them to pay off the debt instalments the country will be left with no money to buy vital imports such as oil. If he defaults, long-term consequences could be catastrophic. The euphoria which greeted the tests at the end of May has evaporated. The Pakistani rupee has fallen steadily and the stock market index has dropped to about a third of its pre-nuclear test level. Remittances from workers overseas, traditionally a key source of foreign exchange, have almost stopped.

Instead, tens of thousands of ordinary Pakistanis have withdrawn their savings to buy dollars on the black market as insurance against further falls in the value of the rupee.

Millions of dollars have been sent out of the country through underground banking systems despite pleas from the government to invest in so-called self-sufficiency funds.

Last week banks were mobbed and safe deposit boxes seized after rumours of a devaluation. Foreign currency accounts have been frozen.

"The feeling is that this is a moment of silence before the execution. Unless a fairy godmother turns up we simply do not have the money to pay our debts," said one stockbroker in

Karachi. Mian Shaukat Masood, a textile importer and currency trader, said he felt everything was falling apart. "Systems are breaking down. Soon prices will start going up. The market will panic and a political crisis will follow the economic crash."

The Pakistani government has been relying on the International Monetary Fund to release more than \$140m in loans to help. But the United States and Britain are likely to use their influence to block the loan, part of a billion-pound aid package, in an attempt to force Pakistan to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and restrict its nuclear programme.

However, Nawaz Sharif, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, said that the "hard-working and brave people of Pakistan ... will not submit to any coercion or pressure".

Strobe Talbott, the US Deputy Secretary of State, is due to visit Pakistan today in an attempt to persuade Mr Sharif to change his mind. Pakistan has tried to raise the funds from friendly Muslim countries.

A series of frantic missions by ministers to Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Malaysia has failed so far to provide anything more than offers of cheap financing for oil, commodity exchanges and an increase in credit from the Islamic Development Bank.

In the past the Saudis have frequently provided Pakistan with huge loans, but only, according to a government source, on condition that the pace of Islamisation in Pakistan is stepped up, a development the US would be keen to prevent.

"The Saudis use their money as a foreign policy instrument ... any money has plenty of strings attached," the source said.

For their part, Government officials are insisting that any crisis is just the idea of a hysterical media. "The only difficulty is that in the past we have relied on the IMF to help us out and that is now a bit uncertain," one government economist said. But others fear the worst and point out that the post-test sanctions have yet to bite.

Clean-up casts out 'untidy' Lydia

THIS EPISODE of *Samotechny Lane* has a terrible Russian inevitability about it. I had hoped to give Lydia Ivanovna a rest, for a successful soap opera should have a wide cast of characters, and no news about my local bag lady, featured three weeks ago, would have been good news. But when I warned you how her newfound comfort in a disused workman's hut could be threatened by the social clean-up for the World Youth Games, it was not without reason that I told you to watch this space.

Indeed, everything happened according to a predictable old script written way back in Soviet times. The Asian and Caucasian street traders had already been put on trains back to their republics so they would not make Moscow look "dirty" while the foreign athletes were in town. Lydia, 60, a former physiotherapist tricked out of her flat by real-estate sharks, looked as if she might be allowed to stay on in her hut on a piece of waste ground that she was transforming into a garden. But no.

Last Monday just hours before the junior Olympics opened with pomp and circumstance in a different district of the city, this most respectable of Muscovites was dragged from her home and caged like an animal because she upset mayor Yuri Luzhkov's ideas of tidiness.

All countries have homeless people. In New York and London, they doss in cardboard boxes and beg for

STREET LIFE SAMOTECHNY LANE, MOSCOW

the price of a cuppa. Homelessness is, or should be, a source of shame to us all. But only the Russian language has the word "*pokozukho*", which means "show for the benefit of outsiders". Acting on this principle, the mayor has swept all "social undesirables" out of sight for the duration of the games.

Lydia's good relations with the police - she used to wash their patrol cars and thereby make an honest living of up to £12 a day - could not help her, but naively she put her faith in the Western press. After she was arrested, she rang to say she was being held at police station number 64 and begged me to help her.

I found her sitting quietly in the police station cage. She was dressed in her best red skirt and had put some lipstick on to cheer herself up.

"Why are you holding her?" I asked the duty sergeant. He replied with his eyes: "We both know this is absurd and cruel but I have a job to do."

In many countries, those carrying out orders will say it is "more than their job's worth" to use their initiative. But, owing to the fear of authority that is the legacy of Soviet times, it is especially hopeless to expect rea-

son from most Russians, however fair-minded they normally are, once they have received a stupid order from on high.

The only hope for Lydia was that the station chief, Lieutenant-Colonel Konstantin Golyshev, might have the authority to show a little more flexibility. What a small world this is. While I sat in the corridor waiting to speak to him, a detective led a boy I recognised as Lyosha, my neighbour's car-thieving son, down to the cells. Another jail sentence for him then, probably.

Finally, Lt-Col Golyshev received me. Lydia Ivanovna had been arrested, he said, because there was a "danger her dogs might bite children". "You mean the young athletes?" I asked, and he smiled but persisted. Lydia "ought to live like a decent human being in a flat". Since she "failed" to do this, she would be taken away to a special reception centre where "competent organs" would sort out her problems.

Off the record, I was told this was not really true, of course. She was being swept out of sight until the games were over, when the problem of homelessness would be with us just as before.

Lydia had told me she did not mind leaving Moscow. "If the mayor thinks I lower the tone, I will go. I am willing to work on a collective farm. But what about my hut and my things?"

On Lydia's behalf, I asked Lt-Col



Moscow's streets have been swept clean of the homeless for the World Youth Games

Golyshev if he could at least make sure she had something to come back to after the games. And here he made the only concession in his limited power. He gave permission for her to return briefly to the hut to pack her most valuable belongings.

She chose to take a large Communist victory sign that had decorated her garden, as well as two suitcases. But the police could give no guarantee that her hut would be safe in her absence, and she had to release her four dogs, companions that never bit anyone, on to the street.

"My babies, my babies," she cried. "It would be easier for me now if I was

alone with nothing in the world."

Her home-making instinct, which had made her a bourgeois among tramps, only increased her pain in this crisis, when what she needed was to be the classic wanderer, free from possessions and responsibilities.

Lydia howled as she was put back into the cage to await transportation to the reception centre. She had placed too much hope in my ability to get her released. All I could do was observe, and I am afraid she came to see me, the journalist, as just another cog in the repressive machine bearing down on her.

HELEN WOMACK

Nigerian amnesty

NIGERIA'S NEW military ruler yesterday pardoned 10 prisoners sentenced in connection with a 1995 coup plot, amid expectations that he would shortly unveil his plan to bring democracy to Africa's most populous nation.

General Abdulsalam Abubakar ordered the 10, including three journalists and a well-known human rights ac-

tivist, to be freed immediately. The journalists, Ben Charles Obi, George Mba and Kule Ajibade, and rights activist Shehu Musau, were serving 15-year prison terms in connection with the alleged coup, which is widely believed to have been invented by the government of Nigeria's late dictator, General Sani Abacha, to lock up his critics. AP.

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BUSINESS

Stock Exchange's late start fails to calm City fears

BRIEFING

Shire ahead on Alzheimer's hopes

SHARES IN Shire Pharmaceuticals jumped 10 per cent yesterday after the biotechnology group reported that its Alzheimer's disease drug had shown positive results in clinical trials.

Shire shares closed at 540.5p, up 53p, as it reported that US trials of the drug, galantamine, slowed down and sometimes even improved memory and learning ability in Alzheimer's sufferers. Analysts said the drug, which Shire is developing in co-operation with Johnson & Johnson, the US pharmaceuticals giant, was the most important in the UK group's portfolio. The company is expected to file for regulatory approval for the drug in the UK and possibly the US before the end of the year.

Zeneca launches asthma tablet

ZENECA
share price, pence

THE PHARMACEUTICAL giant Zeneca yesterday officially launched a new tablet that could replace inhalers used by some of Britain's three million asthmatics. The group said its new Accolate anti-asthma tablet was the first new treatment of its kind in the UK and the first alternative to inhaled steroids for 20 years.

Accolate is one of a new class of drugs known as LTRAs, which block the effects that trigger inflammation and mucus secretion and cause constriction in the lungs leading to an asthma attack. Around three million people are affected with asthma in the UK, including 750,000 schoolchildren, and it is estimated that more than 100 million people worldwide suffer from the chronic lung disease.

Zeneca said Accolate would play a significant role in the international market for anti-asthma medicines, worth an estimated £4bn. Shares in Zeneca closed down 3p at 2557p.

Save As You Earn bonus cut
HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS of employees will bear the brunt of a Treasury cut to Save As You Earn schemes announced yesterday. Savers, who had enjoyed a guaranteed bonus of 5.67 per cent a year on the tax-free schemes, will now get 4.52 per cent. The schemes give employees a share option at a 20 per cent discount to the market price which can be exercised when they have saved for a set number of years. An employee who saved £100 a month for seven years under current schemes can expect a bonus of £1,800. Under new schemes, the bonus would be £1,350.

Seagram spins off premium orange to PepsiCo
IN AN important reshaping of the soft drinks industry, Seagram Co announced yesterday that it was offloading its Tropicana chilled juices business to PepsiCo Inc in a deal worth \$3.3bn.

The transaction will unite the world's second beverage company with the number one producer of branded juices. As well as topping juice sales in the US, where it has 40 per cent of the ready-to-drink orange juice market, Tropicana is the market leader in Britain, Canada, Belgium and France. With labels like Season's Best and Tropicana Premium, its annual revenue reached \$2bn last year.

PepsiCo, which hopes to close some of the gap separating it from Coca-Cola, is gambling that Florida-based Tropicana will fit neatly with its existing beverage base as well as its Frito-Lay snack business. Last year, PepsiCo spun off its restaurant division,

change defended its decision to open at 9am rather than 8.30am, saying it was far too early to judge the move's success.

Trade point, a rival to the Stock Exchange, took a different approach to the problem of low trading volumes early in the day. Rather than shortening the trading day, Trade point yesterday announced it would cut prices for members choosing to trade between 7.30am and 9.30am.

Nic Stuchfield, Trade point's chief executive, said: "This initiative is Trade point's way of encouraging market users to post their orders early in the day."

Sets, the LSE's new electronic trading system, has been dogged by pricing difficulties ever since launch last October. The main problems have been first thing in the morning and last thing in the afternoon, when low trading volumes have meant that investors risk dealing at unfavourable prices.

After extensive consultation, the LSE decided to open at 9.00am rather than 8.30am, and to persuade Liffe, London's futures and options exchange, to trade equity options until 4.30pm, LSE's official closing time, rather than 4.10pm.

The City has welcomed the

second of these initiatives, which also came into force yesterday. Many dealers arbitrage between equities on the LSE and equity options on Liffe, and after Liffe closes, volumes on the LSE tend to fall off. Dealers were more sceptical, though, about LSE's decision to open later.

There was little evidence yesterday morning of a marked improvement in price formation on the LSE, where volumes were low for the first thirty minutes of so of trade.

An exchange spokeswoman said: "Yes, it's been quite slow, but there are lots of different reasons why this might be.

Every day is different". Stephen Wilson, head of commercial development at Trade point, said volumes on his exchange were 50 per cent higher than usual.

One head of sales at a US house dismissed the LSE's latest initiative as ineffectual. He said: "All it did was hold things back another half an hour. It's hard to see it making any difference, when what people are waiting for is to get a feel of the way things are going."

Justin Urquhart Stewart at Barclays Stockbrokers said: "It's all designed to make life easier for the big institutions. But delaying the opening of the

swimming pool by 30 minutes does not necessarily make the water warmer."

Ms Knight of APCIMS said the LSE was failing to serve the needs of small investors, who wanted to trade early in the morning.

She added that many clients wanting to buy or sell shares before the LSE's official opening were now being forced to use old-style market makers. City dealers warned that investors choosing to trade in this way ran the risk of dealing at highly unfavourable prices.

Outlook, page 17
Leading article, Review page 3

London store makes a low-key debut

SELFRIDGES, the London department store, made its debut on the London Stock Exchange yesterday, but a less than dazzling performance reflected worries about the store's prospects in the short term.

Rival department store Debenhams was also in the spotlight with a better-than-expected trading report despite the poor summer weather that has affected high street sales across Britain. A 4.5 per cent increase in sales to 11 July on a comparable basis was reassuring, and helped boost Debenhams' shares by 18p to 352.5p.

Peter Jarvis, the Debenhams chairman, said margins had been maintained and the company's strategy "continues to deliver a good performance, notwithstanding today's difficult economic and trading environment".

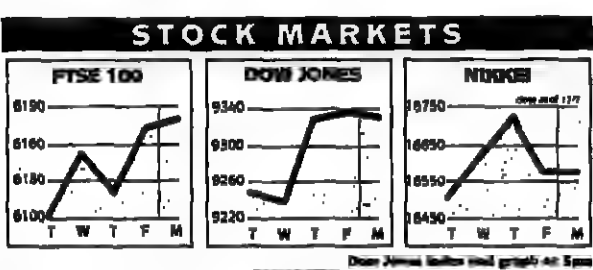
Analysts said the statement had come as a relief after recent negative sentiment on retailers. Debenhams shares, which joined the UK equity market in January after a demerger from Burton, hit a low of 296p on 7 July and have been at around a 30 per cent discount to the market. "It was a solid statement, very reassuring," said SG Securities analyst Nick Bubb.

Selfridges, demerging from parent Sears, defied the market's most pessimistic projections with its shares trading above its net asset value, but the store's market capitalisation of £360m was more modest than original estimates of between £450m and £500m, analysts said.

The shortfall reflected Selfridges' profit downturn in the past year due to the refurbishment of its Oxford Street store and lower tourist spending. There were also question marks over the success of Selfridges' first move out of London to a new store in Manchester, which opens in September.

Its profits are set to fall again this year, with forecasts ranging from £12m to £17m, down from a pre-former profit last year of £21.2m.

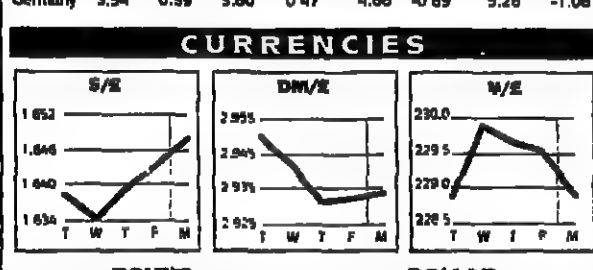
The demerger has been part of Sears' efforts to improve returns for shareholders after making huge write-offs last year for its loss-making shoe business, which has now been sold.



Index	Close	Change	Change (%)	52 wk high	52 wk low	Yield (%)
FTSE 100	6179.00	5.00	0.08	6180.40	4382.80	3.52
FTSE 250	5709.20	5.50	0.10	5970.50	4428.30	3.46
FTSE 350	2967.60	2.50	0.08	2987.00	2181.80	3.51
FTSE All Share	2885.12	2.44	0.09	2886.02	2106.56	3.51
FTSE SmallCap	2992.00	2.90	0.10	2793.80	2182.10	3.25
FTSE Fledgling	1421.50	4.70	0.33	1517.10	1225.20	3.87
FTSE AIM	1095.00	5.30	0.58	1146.90	965.90	1.18
FTSE EBLCC 100	1129.39	7.73	0.69			
Dow Jones	9332.05	-3.41	-0.06	9354.71	8971.32	1.37
Nikkei	18270.78	-161.14	-0.88	20956.67	1489.21	0.82
Hang Seng	8493.25	-132.46	-1.57	16820.31	7351.66	4.82
Dax	6171.43	23.56	0.38	6167.51	3467.24	2.62



Index	3 month	Yr chg	1 Year	Yr chg	10 Year	Yr chg	Long bond	Yr chg
UK	7.75	0.70	7.08	0.43	5.85	-1.18	5.51	-1.43
US	5.88	-0.06	5.81	-0.22	5.48	-0.77	5.72	-0.82
Japan	0.85	0.01	0.67	-0.14	1.74	-0.82	2.29	-0.76
Germany	3.54	0.39	3.60	0.47	4.68	-0.89	5.28	-1.08



Index	3 month	Yr chg	1 Year	Yr chg	10 Year	Yr chg	Long bond	Yr chg
£/D	1.6476	+0.47%	1.6786					
D-Mark	2.9321	+0.06%	3.0135					
Yen	228.71	-0.91%	195.17					
£ index	104.60	+0.00%	104.80					
£ index	117.60	+0.00%	103.70					

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Seagram spins off premium orange to PepsiCo

BY DAVID USBORNE
In New York

IN AN important reshaping of the soft drinks industry, Seagram Co announced yesterday that it was offloading its Tropicana chilled juices business to PepsiCo Inc in a deal worth \$3.3bn.

The transaction will unite the world's second beverage company with the number one producer of branded juices. As well as topping juice sales in the US, where it has 40 per cent of the ready-to-drink orange juice market, Tropicana is the market leader in Britain, Canada, Belgium and France. With labels like Season's Best and Tropicana Premium, its annual revenue reached \$2bn last year.

PepsiCo, which hopes to close some of the gap separating it from Coca-Cola, is gambling that Florida-based Tropicana will fit neatly with its existing beverage base as well as its Frito-Lay snack business. Last year, PepsiCo spun off its restaurant division,



Tropicana, dominant in the not-from-concentrate market, is a valuable addition to the PepsiCo range John Voss

composed of KFC, Pizza Hut and Taco Bell. With its Minute Maid division, Coca-Cola also has an interest in the juice market. However, sales of Minute Maid have long been eclipsed by Tropicana.

The sale is also critical for Montreal-based Seagram which, for the first time in its history, will become more heavily focused on the entertain-

ment industry than on the beverage business. Indeed, the disposal of Tropicana had been planned to raise cash to help fund Seagram's purchase in May of PolyGram, Seagram had earlier suggested that it would seek to raise as much as \$4bn from Tropicana by selling it to the public. It also said, however, that it would entertain offers from other interested

bidders. The acquisition of PolyGram, the music and filmed entertainment giant, was sealed for \$10.6bn.

Seagram, still the maker of Chivas Regal, Seagram's V.O. and Absolut Vodka, made its first foray into the entertainment world with its purchase of MCA Inc for \$5.7bn in 1995. MCA is now called Universal Studios.

Part of the attraction of Tropicana to Pepsi was its hold on the lucrative and rapidly expanding chilled, not-from-concentrate, segment of the juice market. In America, Tropicana accounts for 71 per cent of the sales of these higher-priced, premium quality juices. Since 1993, the not-from-concentrate market in the US has grown by more than 8 per cent annually.

Telecom giants plan Euro-link

BY PETER THAL LARSEN

COMPETITION in the European telecom market intensified yesterday as the French and German state operators revealed widespread plans to join forces while WorldCom, the fast-growing US group, unveiled its sophisticated pan-European network.

Deutsche Telekom and France Telecom yesterday announced plans to present a united front in 20 European countries where they are active. They already have joint ventures in Italy and Switzerland, and in the UK through their partnership with Eircom.

The two companies said they expected all their existing ventures to generate revenues of more than 10bn euros by the year 2003, giving them a 10 per cent

share of the market outside their home countries. To cement the agreement Deutsche Telekom and France Telecom will buy 2 per cent shareholdings in each other before the end of the year.

Meanwhile WorldCom, the US group which is in the middle of a \$37bn merger with MCI, announced the completion of its pan-European telecoms network. The 2,000-mile long network links together the five cities - London, Paris, Frankfurt, Amsterdam and Brussels - where WorldCom has built local infrastructure.

The network, which is the first pan-European infrastructure to be completed, will allow WorldCom to offer sophisticated managed telecom services to customers including multinational companies and Internet service providers.

Confidence slumps as downturn is signalled

BY LEA PATERSON

MARY CHAPMAN, IM director general, said: "As business confidence falls, management anxiety rises. There are clear signs of a downturn in business activity as the measures taken to cool the economy begin to bite. Business leaders fear cooling may be the first signal of recession."

Analysts warned against attaching too much significance to the money supply figures, saying that the measure was unlikely to have much impact at the next meeting of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC).

Jonathan Loyes at HSBC said: "The slowdown in M4 (a broad measure of money supply) will come as some reassurance to those of a

monetarist persuasion on the MPC. But it is unlikely to have a major bearing on the interest rate decision in early August."

According to the Office for National Statistics (ONS), M4 grew by 9 per cent in the year to June, the slowest growth since September 1995. Month-on-month M4 growth in June was 0.7 per cent.

Despite the slowdown in M4 growth, consumer borrowing is holding up well, according to a breakdown of lending provided by the British Bankers' Association (BBA). "It might still be too early to talk of a reversed trend in the consumer sector," said Audrey Childe-Freeman at CIBC World Markets.

Sterling eased following the money supply data, but firmed later to close at DM2.933, virtually unchanged from Friday.

The shortfall reflected Selfridges' profit downturn in the past year due to the refurbishment of its Oxford Street store and lower tourist spending. There were also question marks over the success of Selfridges' first move out of London to a new store in Manchester, which opens in September.

Its profits are set to fall again this year, with forecasts ranging from £12m to £17m, down from a pre-former profit last year of £21.2m.

The demerger has been part of Sears' efforts to improve returns for shareholders after making huge write-offs last year for its loss-making shoe business, which has now been sold.

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

LONDON

IN QUIET trading, Footsie climbed 5 points to 6,179, another closing peak. The 30-minute start of trading on the computerised order book seemed to have little impact, merely pushing proceedings back by half an hour.

Enterprise Oil was the best-performing blue chip, largely on backing from BT Alex Brown. Shire Pharmaceuticals became the hot drug favourite, jumping 53p to \$40.50 after positive weekend developments on its Alzheimer's drug, galantamine.

Derek Pain, page 21

NEW YORK

WALL STREET was mixed in subdued trade. The Dow was weighed down by a warning from McDonald's, while hi-tech shares propped up the Nasdaq.

The Dow's losses were deepened by a computer selling program which pushed the blue-chip index more than 50 points lower to trigger index arbitrage trading curbs. In early afternoon the Dow was off 46 points at 9,291. Stocks had reached record highs on Friday, and a move in the opposite direction often takes place in the succeeding session.

FRANKFURT

German shares retreated from record territory as low volume and a weaker dollar weighed on the market. The XetraDAX closed up 23.2 at 6186.1 after hitting a record high of 6,206.01 points earlier.

Software maker SAP AG's preference shares lost 12 marks to 1,170. It said its first-half profit rose 43 per cent to DM382m. Industrial giant Siemens was also among decliners, dropping 0.80 pfennigs to 132.30 marks. On Sunday it denied a report in Der Spiegel magazine that it intended to cease production of cheap computer chips.

HONG KONG

Stocks ended sharply lower on Monday, extending losses through the day in quiet trade as investors awaited second-quarter jobs data. Tokyo was on holiday as well.

The Hang Seng index lost 135.68 points, or 1.57 per cent, to finish at 8,493.25 after hitting a day low of 8,480.65.

After the market closed, the government announced a rise in unemployment to 4.5 per cent in the April to June period from 4.1 per cent in the March to May period. The second-quarter figure was in line with expectations.

JOHANNESBURG

A WEAKER rand inspired South African gold stocks higher on Monday, but sent other sectors south as the markets chafed at Friday's news that Moody's Investor Service was reviewing the country's rating.

The benchmark All Share fell 98.5 points, or 1.33 per cent, to 7,332.5, but the Gold index closed up 1.74 per cent at 1,072.5 as AngloGold, the world's largest gold producer, reported a 42 per cent rise in interim earnings. The rand ended the day at 6.3450 to the dollar.

هكذا من الأصل

Stock Exchange's half-hour folly

AS PUBLIC relations disasters go, the stock exchange's decision to open half an hour later so as to achieve "more consistent pricing" at the start of the day takes some beating. Whether or not late opening eventually has the desired effect, the Exchange surely must have been aware of how it would play to the public. When an organisation is in difficulty, the correct response is surely to extend the working day so as to achieve greater competitiveness, not to cut it. Anything else could reasonably be regarded as suicide.

The parallel with the stock exchange is not an exact one, since the problem here is one of lack of liquidity at the start of the day, rather than lack of productivity. The effect of this absence of liquidity is that the little business which does take place is often conducted on a very wide spread between bid and offer price. This in turn can enormously increase the effective cost to the investor of buying and selling shares.

To set back the opening 30 minutes to a time when generally sufficient liquidity has built up in the system to allow more representative prices, never seemed likely to do the trick, and judging by yes-



OUTLOOK

terday's, it certainly hasn't. By 10am yesterday, there had been only 10,400 trades, an exceptionally low volume for that time of day.

In other words, the effect of opening later seems to have been merely to push the half hour of low liquidity further into the day, rather than get rid of it entirely. There's still the same reluctance among institutions to post their trades as the market opens. It seems to be the case that big investors want to see consistent pricing establish itself before taking the plunge, whatever time the market opens.

None of this would matter very much if the stock exchange had an absolute monopoly. Inconvenience-

ing those who do want to trade early - mainly small investors dashing off to work - might seem a small price to pay for the extra half-hour brokers and officials get in bed. Unfortunately for the LSE, not even the capital markets are immune to the forces of competition nowadays. Thanks to the stock exchange's "brilliant solution", Frankfurt and Paris now have an hour and a half's head start over London and while it is not yet possible to deal in those markets in all but a handful of UK listed stocks, they won't be slow to spot the opportunity.

Tradeport, the leading secondary electronic market in London, was already busy capitalising on the LSE's embarrassment yesterday by offering discounts to those using its system before the main market opens. This might seem a rather more constructive approach to encouraging liquidity at the beginning of the day than doggedly refusing to open for business at all.

More to come at Regent

SHARES IN Regent Inns, the fast growing pub company, lost almost half their value after the company

last month disclosed "inconsistencies and inaccuracies" in the calculation of its like-for-like sales that would lead to a £1.7m profits hit.

Since then the rumour mill has been working overtime. Fingers are being pointed and investors are asking whether this is just the tip of an iceberg. It is all starting to look rather ugly. There is now talk of boardroom splits, disputes over strategy and directors' outside interests are being questioned.

The company insists that the decks have been cleared, that the City has been kept fully informed and that there is nothing to worry about. They may well be right. But shareholders deserve answers.

First is the way like for like sales were calculated. Like for like sales - with the effects of new openings stripped out - are a key measure of underlying performance. Retailers spend ages worrying over how they are calculated and explaining the method of measurement used. As retailers, pub businesses should be no different.

But under Clive Watson, the finance director who left in April, the figures were calculated by comparing present sales with those of two years ago and dividing them by two

- not a very scientific approach and potentially extremely misleading.

Mr Watson says the board was aware of the method and sanctioned it, so there must be an element of collective responsibility. If the board did not know Mr Watson's method, they should have done. And if they did, they should have informed the market sooner.

The second question is about Regent's strategy. The company was built up on London boozers but, high on its success, it started opening pubs in northern towns where it had only limited knowledge. Some say not all board members were in favour of this strategy though the company denies a split. In the dash for growth, management may have taken its eye off existing pubs. Indeed the company admits that investment in central systems did not keep pace with operational expansion.

And then there is question of directors' outside interests. Regent's managing director, David Franks, and operations director, Peter Mackle, are directors and shareholders in a loss-making cafe business called Fish Fish. Though this was disclosed in the Regent accounts, is it right these two should have been empire-building in a business that would

compete for sites with Regent and give rise to a possible conflict of interest? We have not heard the last of this mini scandal.

Transport bears scars of battle

"AFTER 20 YEARS in the wilderness, this is the day that transport policy bursts into the light of a new dawn." That's telling 'em, John. The Deputy Prime Minister bore down on the road and rail industry with his long-awaited transport White Paper yesterday and the market barely flinched. This was not so much a juggernaut laying waste to all those privatised train operators and apologists for the motor car: it was more a friendly double-decker inviting everyone to jump on board.

Perhaps it was the touchy-feely language, the Rail Passenger Partnerships, the Commission for Integrated Transport and the promise of Infrastructure Investment Funds. Perhaps it was the vagueness of the timescales attached to Mr Prescott's action plan. Or maybe it was the way that the most contentious elements of the proposals, like charging to enter city centres

and park at work, were carefully devolved to local authority level.

There is little doubt that the long-delayed 170-page white paper bears the scars of the battles Mr Prescott has had to fight with Downing Street and the Treasury. Thus the tax on parking at out-of-town supermarkets and shopping complexes disappears (just as Labour says thanks very much and banks another £1m from Lord Sainsbury).

The Strategic Rail Authority looks a sensible idea with its remit to make sure the railways are run as a single network and its new responsibility for consumer protection. But the train operators need not tremble awhile yet since their performance regime will not be revisited until the franchises come up for renewal in the next millennium.

Even the road lobby was not fazed by the Prescott approach, despite the fact that it is being loaded with another £1bn of taxes on top of the £30bn it already pays. "Mondeo man can breathe a little easier," japed John, meaning he will have cleaner air to draw on. Given the headline position Mr Prescott started from, his new dawn does not look that intimidating for the Fat Controller either.

IN BRIEF

Europe lags in global banking

EUROPEAN investment banks are unlikely to become global leaders in the industry, according to a new report published today.

An Economist Intelligence Unit/AT Kearney survey of top investment banking institutions found that business leaders thought that only a handful of banks - all US-based - had the right ingredients for global success. Paul Reyniers, vice-president at AT Kearney, a consultancy, said: "The top European and Asian banks are going to have to reassess their current strategies. They are only going to be able to break through to the first tier through major acquisitions."

More cars made

UK CAR production rose a seasonally-adjusted 5.8 per cent in the six months ending June compared with the previous six months, and was up 7.3 per cent on the same period a year ago, according to data from the Office for National Statistics.

In June, the seasonally-adjusted index for total car production was 139, virtually unchanged from 138 in May. Production allocated for export rose by 5.1 per cent in the six months to June and was up 3.7 per cent on the same period a year ago, while car production for the domestic market rose by 6.6 per cent in the six months to June and was up 12.1 per cent year-on-year.

Banks merge

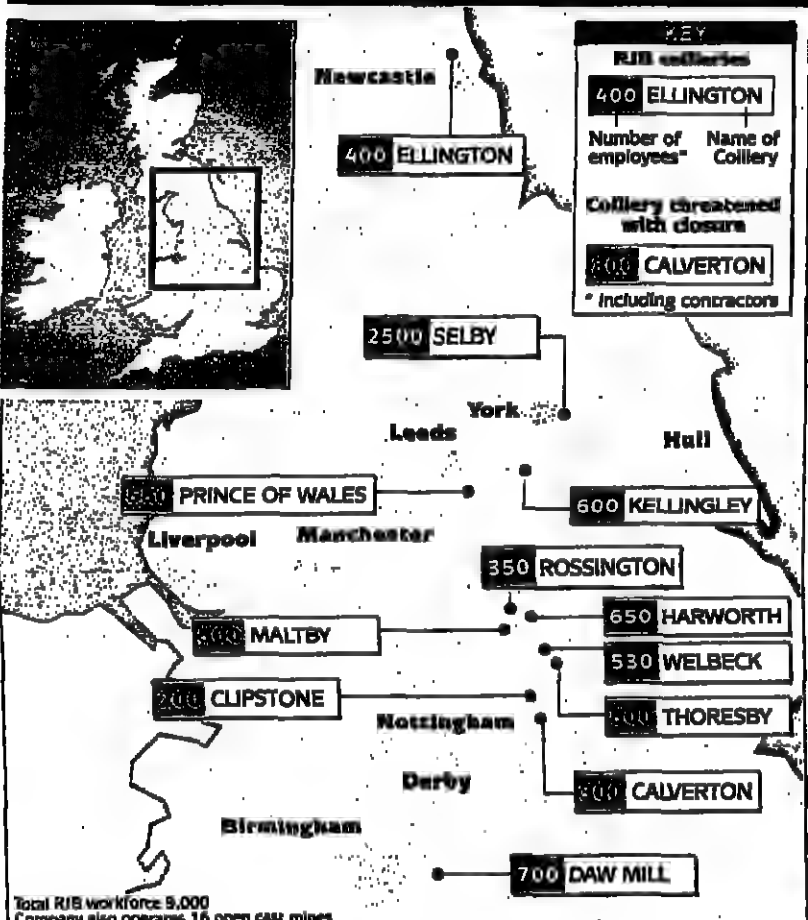
ATLANTA-BASED SunTrust Banks agreed to buy Crestar, based in Virginia. District of Columbia, in a \$9.5bn (£5.8bn) stock deal which will create the tenth-largest bank in the US with \$88bn in assets and 1,093 branches in six states and the District of Columbia.

McDonald's down

SHARES IN McDonald's Corp fell by 5.5 per cent in New York yesterday after the world's largest fast-food company warned it would not be able to sustain a strong US performance that helped second-quarter earnings meet expectations. Second-quarter profits before a charge rose 7 per cent to \$469m from \$438m a year ago. McDonald's said its US profit before tax and the charge rose 15 per cent.

King Coal isn't beaten yet

HOW COLLIERY CLOSURE MAY HIT RJB



How many of RJB's mines can be kept open depends on how quickly power station sell-offs and other market reforms proceed. Richard Budge is ever the optimist

By MICHAEL HARRISON

LOVE HIM or loathe him, it is hard not to admire the tenacity with which Richard Budge hangs on to the belief that there is a future, and a rosy one at that, for the British coal industry. Yesterday was the last day for interested parties to respond to the Government's energy review - otherwise known as its pit rescue plan.

There can be few more interested parties than Mr Budge. His company, RJB Mining, accounts for 85 per cent of the deep-mined coal produced in this country. And yet where was Mr Budge yesterday? Lobbying the President of the Board of Trade, Margaret Beckett, for a level playing field in the energy market? Banging on the doors of the generators, demanding that they buy more of his "world competitive" British coal?

Neither of these. In fact Mr Budge was busy opening the war on another front. RJB has made an application to the European courts to block Brussels' approval for the payment of £3.3bn a year in state subsidies to the German and Spanish coal in-



News Analysis: Richard Budge, the RJB chief, believes he is winning the battle for the survival of Britain's coal industry. Others are not so sure

dustry. Mr Budge wants a slice of their markets and he reckons that once the prop of taxpayers' support has been kicked away they will be fair game.

In his heart Mr Budge knows however that annulment proceedings before the Court of First Instance of the European Communities in Luxembourg are not noted for their clarity. If coal is to have a future, then salvation will be found much nearer to home.

Ever the optimist, Mr Budge believes he is winning the battle in Westminster for coal to be given a free crack of the whip. Others fear, however, that he is simply whistling in the dark to keep his spirits up, and that the outlook for RJB Mining is one of steady and painful contraction.

In the long term the energy review should be good news for the coal industry. It imposed an indefinite ban on further gas-fired power stations. It put the two big generators, National Power and PowerGen, on notice that they would have to divest

up to half their coal-fired stations to rival operators, to increase competition and, thus presumably, the market for coal. And it paved the way for an overhaul of trading arrangements in the electricity pool, designed to stop the market being tilted in favour of gas and nuclear.

RJB's problem, however, is that it desperately needs a short-term solution. Last year it supplied 28 million of the 40 million tonnes of coal burnt by the UK's electricity generating industry. And yet so far this year it has contracted to supply just 13 million tonnes. RJB reckons it can count on another 3 million tonnes from PowerGen but that still leaves another 10 million tonnes to find from somewhere.

The three-month reprieve that guaranteed output at its 15 pits would continue at the same rate as last year expired at the end of June. The discussions about how much coal-fired plant the generators can be coaxed into selling are not likely to produce an outcome until September. "In the meantime, no one is going to buy a single extra tonne of coal," said one electricity executive.

Even without the moratorium, there is enough new gas-fired capacity being built to displace a further 12-15 million tonnes of coal.

Strangely, the coal industry is not in obvious crisis. Pits are not being shut down by the week and miners are not being thrown on the scrapheap in their thousands. "Actually, it's business as usual," says an RJB spokesman cheerily.

Part of the explanation is that two of RJB's pits - Bilstone in Nottinghamshire and Asfordby in north Leicestershire - have closed since the start of this financial year, removing 4 million tonnes of production. Production will also be lower over the next month or so as pits begin their annual two-week summer shutdown.

RJB has also begun to stockpile coal at the pithead. It will not say how much is being stored, but Charles Kerrot, a mining analyst with Paribas Capital Mar-

Markets braced for Fed chief's testimony

When the US Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan takes to Capitol Hill today to deliver his semi-annual report on the US economy, his message is likely to be a somewhat gleeful one - tempered by a good dose of caution, Reuters reports.

Finally, economic statistics are proving what he has been claiming for more than a year: the economy is fundamentally strong but there is little need to raise interest rates, particularly now Asia's turmoil has started to take a bite out of growth.

The Fed chairman is scheduled to deliver his Humphrey-Hawkins testimony to the Senate Banking Committee today at 3pm London time. He will repeat the report to the House Banking Committee on Wednesday.

Mr Greenspan has not been without opposition in his belief that the Fed, at least for now, can let the economy run its course alone.

In May, two of the most outspoken traditionalists on the Fed's policy-making Federal Open Market Committee voted for a rate rise, arguing something needed to be done to reign in rampant growth.

But Mr Greenspan's vindication came last week, when the government reported a 10.3 per cent surge in the US trade deficit to \$15.75bn in May, prompting many economists to slash their forecast for economic growth in the second quarter.

A first estimate of growth will not be released until 31 July, but already some observers think growth has actually been negative. That is in stark contrast to the first quarter, when the economy expanded at 5.4 per cent.

"This is basically a very solid economy that looks as though it's going to slow down all by itself," said Barry Bosworth, an economist at the Brookings Institution.

That is exactly what Mr Greenspan has been arguing ever since the Fed last changed rates in March 1997, when it bumped up the overnight fed funds lending rate by a quarter percentage point to 5.5 per cent.

Hamish McRae, page 19

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£500,000 - £999,999	7.38	5.10
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- No minimum deposit
- No notice required
- And, it works alongside your existing banking arrangements. Opening an account couldn't be simpler - speak to your financial adviser or call us direct - it could be one of the best business decisions you'll ever make.

0345 55 56 59
Savings has never been simpler

PHONE LINES OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 9AM-5PM

TERMS AND CONDITIONS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST. *GROSS P.A. - the rate of interest paid yearly without deduction of lower rate tax or eligible non-taxpayers. **Net - the rates quoted are illustrative of the current gross rate less lower rate tax at the current rate of 20%. The effect of compounding means that the monthly and yearly rates work out the same (rates are calculated to four decimal places although they are rounded to two decimal places for illustration). Rates may vary. Standard Life Bank Limited is a company registered in Scotland (number SC173685) Registered Office Standard Life House 30 Lothian Road Edinburgh EH1 2DH. For your protection, telephone calls will be recorded to help us improve customer service.

[illegible]

	10/7	10/3	9/30	9/27	9/24	9/21	9/18	9/15	9/12	9/9	9/6	9/3	8/31	8/28	8/25	8/22	8/19	8/16	8/13	8/10	8/7	8/4	8/1	7/29	7/26	7/23	7/20	7/17	7/14	7/11	7/8	7/5	7/2	6/29	6/26	6/23	6/20	6/17	6/14	6/11	6/8	6/5	6/2	5/30	5/27	5/24	5/21	5/18	5/15	5/12	5/9	5/6	5/3	4/30	4/27	4/24	4/21	4/18	4/15	4/12	4/9	4/6	4/3	3/31	3/28	3/25	3/22	3/19	3/16	3/13	3/10	3/7	3/4	3/1	2/28	2/25	2/22	2/19	2/16	2/13	2/10	2/7	2/4	2/1	1/29	1/26	1/23	1/20	1/17	1/14	1/11	1/8	1/5	1/2	12/29	12/26	12/23	12/20	12/17	12/14	12/11	12/8	12/5	12/2	11/29	11/26	11/23	11/20	11/17	11/14	11/11	11/8	11/5	11/2	10/29	10/26	10/23	10/20	10/17	10/14	10/11	10/8	10/5	10/2	9/29	9/26	9/23	9/20	9/17	9/14	9/11	9/8	9/5	9/2	8/29	8/26	8/23	8/20	8/17	8/14	8/11	8/8	8/5	8/2	7/29	7/26	7/23	7/20	7/17	7/14	7/11	7/8	7/5	7/2	6/29	6/26	6/23	6/20	6/17	6/14	6/11	6/8	6/5	6/2	5/29	5/26	5/23	5/20	5/17	5/14	5/11	5/8	5/5	5/2	4/29	4/26	4/23	4/20	4/17	4/14	4/11	4/8	4/5	4/2	3/29	3/26	3/23	3/20	3/17	3/14	3/11	3/8	3/5	3/2	2/29	2/26	2/23	2/20	2/17	2/14	2/11	2/8	2/5	2/2	1/29	1/26	1/23	1/20	1/17	1/14	1/11	1/8	1/5	1/2	12/29	12/26	12/23	12/20	12/17	12/14	12/11	12/8	12/5	12/2	11/29	11/26	11/23	11/20	11/17	11/14	11/11	11/8	11/5	11/2	10/29	10/26	10/23	10/20	10/17	10/14	10/11	10/8	10/5	10/2	9/29	9/26	9/23	9/20	9/17	9/14	9/11	9/8	9/5	9/2	8/29	8/26	8/23	8/20	8/17	8/14	8/11	8/8	8/5	8/2	7/29	7/26	7/23	7/20	7/17	7/14	7/11	7/8	7/5	7/2	6/29	6/26	6/23	6/20	6/17	6/14	6/11	6/8	6/5	6/2	5/29	5/26	5/23	5/20	5/17	5/14	5/11	5/8	5/5	5/2	4/29	4/26	4/23	4/20	4/17	4/14	4/11	4/8	4/5	4/2	3/29	3/26	3/23	3/20	3/17	3/14	3/11	3/8	3/5	3/2	2/29	2/26	2/23	2/20	2/17	2/14	2/11	2/8	2/5	2/2	1/29	1/26	1/23	1/20	1/17	1/14	1/11	1/8	1/5	1/2	12/29	12/26	12/23	12/20	12/17	12/14	12/11	12/8	12/5	12/2	11/29	11/26	11/23	11/20	11/17	11/14	11/11	11/8	11/5	11/2	10/29	10/26	10/23	10/20	10/17	10/14	10/11	10/8	10/5	10/2	9/29	9/26	9/23	9/20	9/17	9/14	9/11	9/8	9/5	9/2	8/29	8/26	8/23	8/20	8/17	8/14	8/11	8/8	8/5	8/2	7/29	7/26	7/23	7/20	7/17	7/14	7/11	7/8	7/5	7/2	6/29	6/26	6/23	6/20	6/17	6/14	6/11	6/8	6/5	6/2	5/29	5/26	5/23	5/20	5/17	5/14	5/11	5/8	5/5	5/2	4/29	4/26	4/23	4/20	4/17	4/14	4/11	4/8	4/5	4/2	3/29	3/26	3/23	3/20	3/17	3/14	3/11	3/8	3/5	3/2	2/29	2/26	2/23	2/20	2/17	2/14	2/11	2/8	2/5	2/2	1/29	1/26	1/23	1/20	1/17	1/14	1/11	1/8	1/5	1/2	12/29	12/26	12/23	12/20	12/17	12/14	12/11	12/8	12/5	12/2	11/29	11/26	11/23	11/20	11/17	11/14	11/11	11/8	11/5	11/2	10/29	10/26	10/23	10/20	10/17	10/14	10/11	10/8	10/5	10/2	9/29	9/26	9/23	9/20	9/17	9/14	9/11	9/8	9/5	9/2	8/29	8/26	8/23	8/20	8/17	8/14	8/11	8/8	8/5	8/2	7/29	7/26	7/23	7/20	7/17	7/14	7/11	7/8	7/5	7/2	6/29	6/26	6/23	6/20	6/17	6/14	6/11	6/8	6/5	6/2	5/29	5/26	5/23	5/20	5/17	5/14	5/11	5/8	5/5	5/2	4/29	4/26	4/23	4/20	4/17	4/14	4/11	4/8	4/5	4/2	3/29	3/26	3/23	3/20	3/17	3/14	3/11	3/8	3/5	3/2	2/29	2/26	2/23	2/20	2/17	2/14	2/11	2/8	2/5	2/2	1/29	1/26	1/23	1/20	1/17	1/14	1/11	1/8	1/5	1/2	12/29	12/26	12/23	12/20	12/17	12/14	12/11	12/8	12/5	12/2	11/29	11/26	11/23	11/20	11/17	11/14	11/11	11/8	11/5	11/2	10/29	10/26	10/23	10/20	10/17	10/14	10/11	10/8	10/5	10/2	9/29	9/26	9/23	9/20	9/17	9/14	9/11	9/8	9/5	9/2	8/29	8/26	8/23	8/20	8/17	8/14	8/11	8/8	8/5	8/2	7/29	7/26	7/23	7/20	7/17	7/14	7/11	7/8	7/5	7/2	6/29	6/26	6/23	6/20	6/17	6/14	6/11	6/8	6/5	6/2	5/29	5/26	5/23	5/20	5/17	5/14	5/11	5/8	5/5	5/2	4/29	4/26	4/23	4/20	4/17	4/14	4/11	4/8	4/5	4/2	3/29	3/26	3/23	3/20	3/17	3/14	3/11	3/8	3/5	3/2	2/29	2/26	2/23	2/20	2/17	2/14	2/11	2/8	2/5	2/2	1/29	1/26	1/23	1/20	1/17	1/14	1/11	1/8	1/5	1/2	12/29	12/26	12/23	12/20	12/17	12/14	12/11	12/8	12/5	12/2	11/29	11/26	11/23	11/20	11/17	11/14	11/11	11/8	11/5	11/2	10/29	10/26	10/23	10/20	10/17	10/14	10/11	10/8	10/5	10/2	9/29	9/26	9/23	9/20	9/17	9/14	9/11	9/8	9/5	9/2	8/29	8/26	8/23	8/20	8/17	8/14	8/11	8/8	8/5	8/2	7/29	7/26	7/23	7/20	7/17	7/14	7/11	7/8	7/5	7/2	6/29	6/26	6/23	6/20	6/17	6/14	6/11	6/8	6/5	6/2	5/29	5/26	5/23	5/20	5/17	5/14	5/11	5/8	5/5	5/2	4/29	4/26	4/23	4/20	4/17	4/14	4/11	4/8	4/5	4/2	3/29	3/26	3/23	3/20	3/17	3/14	3/11	3/8	3/5	3/2	2/29	2/26	2/23	2/20	2/17	2/14	2/11	2/8	2/5	2/2	1/29	1/26	1/23	1/20	1/17	1/14	1/11	1/8	1/5	1/2	12/29	12/26	12/23	12/20	12/17	12/14	12/11	12/8	12/5	12/2	11/29	11/26	11/23	11/20	11/17	11/14	11/11	11/8	11/5	11/2	10/29	10/26	10/23	10/20	10/17	10/14	10/11	10/8	10/5	10/2	9/29	9/26	9/23	9/20	9/17	9/14	9/11	9/8	9/5	9/2	8/29	8/26	8/23	8/20	8/17	8/14	8/11	8/8	8/5	8/2	7/29	7/26	7/23	7/20	7/17	7/14	7/11	7/8	7/5	7/2	6/29	6/26	6/23	6/20	6/17	6/14	6/11	6/8	6/5	6/2	5/29	5/26	5/23	5/20	5/17	5/14	5/11	5/8	5/5	5/2	4/29	4/26	4/23	4/20	4/17	4/14	4/11	4/8	4/5	4/2	3/29	3/26	3/23	3/20	3/17	3/14	3/11	3/8	3/5	3/2	2/29	2/26	2/23	2/20	2/17	2/14	2/11	2/8	2/5	2/2	1/29	1/26	1/23	1/20	1/17	1/14	1/11	1/8	1/5	1/2	12/29	12/26	12/23	12/20	12/17	12/14	12/11	12/8	12/5	12/2	11/29	11/26	11/23	11/20	11/17	11/14	11/11	11/8	11/5	11/2	10/29	10/26	10/23	10/20	10/17	10/14	10/11	10/8	10/5	10/2	9/29	9/26	9/23	9/20	9/17	9/14	9/11	9/8	9/5	9/2	8/29	8/26	8/23	8/20	8/17	8/14	8/11	8/8	8/5	8/2	7/29	7/26	7/23	7/20	7/17	7/14	7/11	7/8	7/5	7/2	6/29	6/26	6/23	6/20	6/17	6/14	6/11	6/8	6/5	6/2	5/29	5/26	5/23	5/20	5/17	5/14	5/11	5/8	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Nationwide clamps down on staff over poll

NATIONWIDE, the embattled building society, has issued a stiff dressing-down to some of its branches' staff after car-petbaggers alleged they had been exhorted to support mutually by staff afraid for their jobs.

The society was yesterday said to have "come down like a ton of bricks" after staff at selected branches allegedly told members a vote against mutual-ity might cost them their jobs.

Carpetbaggers said they had evidence that staff at branches in Victoria Street in London, Byers Road in Glasgow and Beaconsfield had breached an electoral code set out by Nationwide.

The code, agreed with the

BY ANDREW VERITY

Electoral Reform Society, which is auditing the vote, allows branch staff to make the society's wishes clear. But staff are banned from warning of the consequences to themselves.

Andrew Muir, the recruitment consultant who is running for election to the board of Nationwide, said: "I have had reports of people being questioned and assisted in filling in the forms in favour of mutual-ity - which is not what they should be doing. I would like to go and check some of the voting forms that have been received and check they haven't been doctored."

Nationwide yesterday denied it had evidence of branch staff encouraging people to vote for mutual-ity - though it did say staff at its Victoria Street branch had been "very proactive" in encouraging people to cast their votes.

Staff at Nationwide have become increasingly concerned that a vote in favour of converting to a bank could trigger a takeover bid leading to the loss of hundreds, if not thousands, of jobs.

Tim Poul, general secretary of the Nationwide Staff Union, has warned of substantial job losses if Nationwide converts, in addition to the threat of closure for some of the society's smaller branches.

Owen Thomas, managing director of Electoral Reform Ballot Services, said he had learned of allegations that some staff had been overstepping the strict rules imposed by Nationwide.

But he added the volume of complaints was very small given the size of the ballot, in which 4.5 million people are taking part.

Mr Muir also admits Nationwide has made big efforts to ensure the election is fair. "Generally, I have to say, there are not many examples of over-enthusiasm, but there are examples," he said.

Nationwide yesterday confirmed it will announce the result of elections to the board of directors by mid-afternoon on Wednesday - a day before the

Recession could be round the corner for the US



HAMISH MCRAE

UP DOWN or sideways for US interest rates? Today Alan Greenspan starts his twice-a-year Humphrey-Hawkins testimony to US Congress. It is an event which has taken on enormous significance - probably far too much - as anyone involved in the markets deconstructs each word of Dr Greenspan to try and judge when and which way the Fed might jump.

Ahead of the testimony what should we think? You have to start with the condition of the US economy, where things are changing fast. Until a few weeks ago it seemed that growth was bounding on, but quite suddenly it seems that the East Asian crisis has struck.

Growth in the first quarter was 5.4 per cent annual rate; growth in the second - well, we won't have the figures until 31 July but the estimates I have seen range from plus 1 per cent to minus 0.8 per cent. The sharpness of the deterioration, and the way the GDP data fits with the (more timely) data on hours worked, is set out in the left hand graph.

Looking ahead, it is at least plausible that there will be a recession in the US this year. We are only just into the third quarter so it would be silly to guess the outcome there. But if the second does turn out to be minus something and the General Motors strike rolls on much longer it is certainly within the bounds of possibility that there will be two quarters of negative growth, the technical definition of recession.

This recession, if it were to take place, would be largely an externally triggered one. There has been a sudden, sharp deterioration in the US trade account, as the right-hand graph shows. Exports of the US to East Asia have collapsed while imports (on the back of that strong home demand) have remained pretty high.

Largely externally triggered, but not entirely there may also be a swing in the inventory cycle taking place, with a build-up in the second quarter and a fall now. This at least is the view of the US economic team at HSBC.

So the US policy-makers are in a bit of a quandary. On the one hand it would be unwise to tighten policy now in the face of a possible recession, albeit a brief one. On the other hand while there is little visible sign of an upsurge in inflation, the strong first quarter did push up inflation a bit, and price rises are towards the top end of the industrial world scale. Growth of demand in the economy probably remained as high in the second quarter as in the first, an unsustainable 5 per cent annual rate. And of course asset prices, particularly the price of financial assets, remain at record levels.

Faced with this, the question is whether the collapse in demand from east Asia has done the Fed's work for it. It almost certainly has. Had the US economy not taken the East Asian hit, it would have had to take an interest rate hit. During the last few months

there are the worries about east Asia noted above. But there is very little perception that there might be the threat of recession from within the US, in particular that the widening trade deficit might be unsustainable. Instead everyone focuses on inflation: no inflation, no problem.

The US is therefore extremely ill-prepared for had economic news. Domestic demand has been sustained in large measure by the willingness of foreigners to cover the US current account deficit, and the ability of US consumers to continue financing their own spending by building up financial assets in the stock market. Question: how will it react to bad economic numbers next week?

My guess is that one negative GDP number assuming it is negative, will not do much harm to confidence. The almost mystical faith that Americans seem to have that somehow or other the Fed can manipulate interest rates to sustain growth for ever can probably stand the odd blow.

The worry is further out. It is that the east Asian slump will continue to deteriorate and that it will prove more contagious to the US than at present appears to be the case.

It is hard, if you are US-based, to take on board the full fragility of the world economy at this moment. Dr Greenspan's judgement on these dangers has proved pretty accurate in recent months, and it will be particularly interesting to see how his view has moved as the story has unfolded.

So I think the thing to look for today and tomorrow will be twofold. First, listen more to what Dr Greenspan says about the world and not so much what he says about America. And second, watch the reaction in the US: to what extent does the "R" word, recession, come into the headlines? It would be safer for the rest of us if US opinion was more aware of the fact that the economic cycle is not dead, just sleeping.

It would be safer for the rest of us if US opinion was more aware that the economic cycle is not dead, just sleeping

German software giant warns on growth

BY PETER THAL LARSEN

SAP, the German computer software giant, yesterday warned that Asian turmoil and spending on tackling the millennium would weaken sales growth in the second half of the year.

Reporting a 61 per cent increase in first-half sales to DM3.9bn and a 43 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to DM832bn, SAP repeated its earlier forecast that profit growth was likely to slow to 30 to 35 per cent per year in the future.

While second quarter sales grew 53 per cent in Germany, and 70 per cent or more in the rest of Europe and the Americas, Asian sales fell 5 per cent as a result of currency depreciation.

Moreover, SAP said the crisis was causing a number of large customers in Japan to delay or reduce contracts.

The company said the race to fix the millennium bug before 2000 was also easing demand, as customers delayed spending on new products in order to tackle problems with their existing systems.

SAP supplies the leading software package used by large companies to manage their production, distribution and personnel functions. Demand for the software has been growing rapidly in recent years as companies increasingly bring together their computer systems under a single umbrella.

The success of so-called enterprise resource planning software in the UK has created an industry of consultancy groups who implement the software. Information technology services groups such as Druid and Diagonal have expanded rapidly by specialising in SAP.

Recently, other IT services groups such as FI Group, Skillsgroup and Vega have announced plans to move into the ERP software business.

SAP said first half profit was hurt by a 61 per cent jump in personnel costs as it hired 4,120 new employees in the first six months of the year, with another thousand likely to be added to the payroll in the second half of the year.

The company also set aside DM35m to cover the costs of its share incentive scheme.

SAP shares, which have doubled in value since January, slipped DM7 to DM117.5.



London's fashionable Pharmacy restaurant, co-owned by artist Damien Hirst, is thought to be worth £10m

Hartford in talks to buy Pharmacy

BY CLIFFORD GERMAN

HARTFORD GROUP, the investment vehicle floated earlier this year, is negotiating to take over the fashionable Pharmacy restaurant, part-owned by the controversial artist Damien Hirst, and now built into a substantial chain of restaurants.

The Pharmacy is co-owned by Hirst, the top persons' FR man, Matthew Freud, and his business partner Jonathan Kennedy, and is already worth an estimated £10m.

The property developers Nigel Wray and Nick Leslau are also major shareholders. They are also shareholders in Hartford, and are shareholders in Hartford's executive chairman and principal shareholder Michael Edelson, a professional

deal-maker who has 27.5 per cent of the shares. Edelson is also a director of Manchester United Football Club and was instrumental in bringing both Leicester City FC and Sheffield United FC to market last year.

Hartford operates a leather goods business and a corporate hospitality business, both acquired from Prestbury Group with a turnover of around £8m and operating profits of £500,000 last year but it was always intended to make use of Mr Edelson's expertise.

Hartford shares were floated on AIM at 2p. The shares were suspended on Friday at 2.75p, valuing the company at just under £4m, after Hartford confirmed it was in acquisition talks. An all-share deal is expected to take three to four weeks.

Oil stocks surge as crude prices look set to recover

LEADING OIL stocks leapt ahead yesterday as the City predicted that crude prices had finally bottomed out, leaving oil companies undervalued.

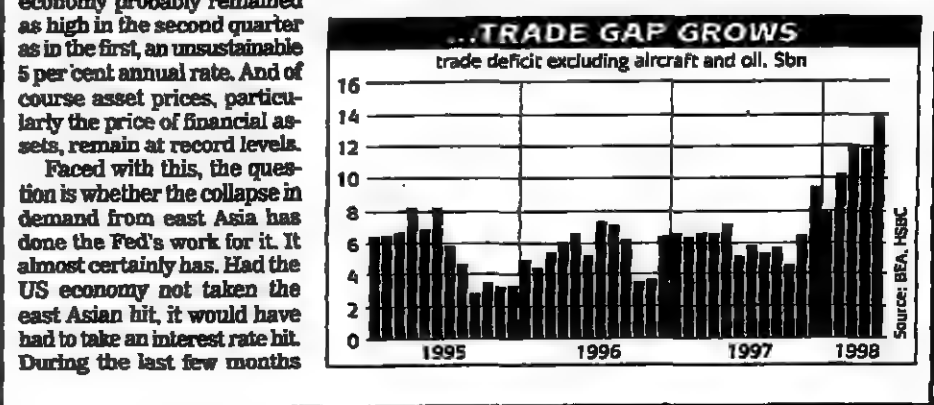
Excitement in the oil sector, which has underperformed the market by 25 per cent since the beginning of the year, grew ahead of a signing today of more deals in the Caspian area of Azerbaijan. BP, Monument Oil & Gas and Ramco Energy are all expected to sign formal agreements at a ceremony involving the Prime Minister, Tony Blair, and his Azeri counterpart, Heydar Aliyev.

Britain's biggest exploration and production company, Enterprise Oil, yesterday led the stock market charge with its shares up 26.5p to 549.5p. Cairn

rose again to \$18 per barrel. Oil is the second-largest industry sector on the market after telecoms, but has been the worst-performing major sector. Stocks have been dragged down by crude prices which fell below \$13 per barrel for Brent blend, the lowest in real terms for 25 years.

The position in the North Sea has been made worse by government indecision over planned fiscal changes and a relatively lack of good finds. While the North Sea is maturing as an oil province, the oil sector has increasingly looked for its salvation in developing countries such as Pakistan, Angola and around the Caspian Sea.

Azerbaijan is considered the



Housing market shows fresh signs of slowdown

THE REALITY of a sluggish housing market was reinforced yesterday as three separate organisations published fresh evidence of a slowdown.

The World Cup, coupled with continual hikes in interest rates, produced the most gloomy outlook for confidence in the housing market since December. In a Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors survey, only 39 per cent of surveyors had seen prices rise in the three months to the end of June. Ian Perry, RICS spokes-man, said: "Both the World Cup and the continuing upward march of interest rates have hit the market."

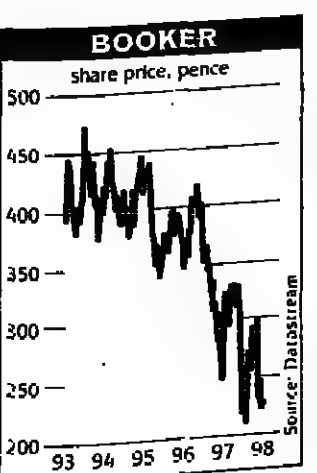
The survey was closely followed by figures on mortgage lending from the Council of Mortgage Lenders and the Building Societies Association.

The CML said it had revised its forecasts for the market downwards because there was less buying and selling taking place than hoped. Lenders now expect prices to go up by 5.2 per cent rather than the 5.5 per cent they anticipated in early 1998. They expect total lending to amount to £24.5bn - more than in 1997. But much of the lending is due to customers re-mortgaging rather than buying.

Adrian Coles, director general of the Building Societies Association, said societies had lent £2,059m in June - traditionally a month that brings brisk mortgage business. "The seasonally adjusted figures are relatively low, confirming reports suggesting the housing market is slowing. Building societies have performed well but activity overall has fluctuated and the underlying trend is probably slightly downward."

The slowdown is attributed by some to the end of a squeeze on the market last year, when a surplus of buyers combined with a small number of homes for sale caused prices to race ahead. But Mr Perry said: "A slight rise in the number of homes for sale cannot disguise the fact that the market has been subdued by speculation that interest rates might rise again."

Booker raises £72m in two sell-offs



BOOKER, the troubled cash-and-carry group which put three divisions up for sale last month after a series of profits warnings, began the disposal process yesterday when it sold its stakes in two continental European operations for £72.5m.

The buyer is Jeronimo Martins, the Portuguese group which owns the Lillywhites sports retailer. The group is buying Booker's 40 per cent stake in a Portuguese joint venture and its 17 per cent interest in a Polish operation. Both were set up in 1991 to take

advantage of cash-and-carry opportunities in markets where the large supermarket groups are less dominant.

Yesterday's deal is the latest in a run of disposals since Booker announced plans to concentrate on its core businesses. Last month it agreed to sell its majority rights to the work of the crime fiction writer, Agatha Christie, for £10m. Other businesses up for sale include the salmon farming op-

eration, a feeds business in Denmark and a sugar joint venture called Fletcher Smith Booker Tate.

Commenting on the European disposals, one analyst said: "After the recent setbacks we have seen with Booker, the market has taken comfort from their ability actually to close this deal."

Booker has issued three profits warnings this year and has struggled since the purchase of the rival Nurdin & Peacock cash-and-carry operations two years ago.

Booker will use the proceeds of the Polish and Portuguese deals to reduce debts, which at the end of last year stood at a net value of £322.5m. The company said the share of net assets of the companies being sold in the 1997 group balance sheet was £4.6m, goodwill written off amounted to £30.9m and their share of pre-tax profits was £6.9m.

Due to seasonality, the effect of the deal on Booker earnings in 1998 will be slightly dilutive before exceptional profits on disposal, the company said.

COMPANY RESULTS					
Turnover (£)	Profit (£)	EPS	Dividend	Pay day	Ex-Dividend
Archer (P)	1.2m (2.2m)	0.59m (1.13m)	3.5p (4.1p)	14/08	-
Commercial (P)	20.4m (18.1m)	0.81m (0.80m)	10.0p (8.9p)	01.08.98	-
Johns Public (P)	84.9m (80.8m)	3.4m (2.9m)	1.7p (2.0p)	14/08	-
Prole & Malt (P)	21.7m (20.2m)	0.89m (0.79m)	10.2p (14.5p)	1.75p (8.5p)	-
Sho Business (P)	11.07m (8.80m)	0.501m (0.822m)	0.275p (0.221p)	0.000p (0.004p)	18.08.98

(P) - Profit (L) - Loss (M) - Millions (EPS) - Earnings per share (Dividend) - Dividend to be paid as a P/D

MAIN MOVERS

RISES					FALLS				
PRICE(\$)	CHG(\$)	%CHG			PRICE(\$)	CHG(\$)	%CHG		
Alcoa Plant	\$44.00	05.00	12.50		Liberty Bell	176.00	-26.00	-17.18	
Alcoa Plant	\$228.00	45.00	19.18		Continental Pac	88.00	-5.00	-5.67	
Barclays Bank	228.00	10.00	4.41		Northwestern	138.00	-5.00	-3.75	
Bankers	228.00	14.00	7.14		Thomson	122.00	-5.00	-4.21	
US Sports	\$62.00	1.00	7.35		West American	417.00	-15.00	-3.62	
Northwestern	228.00	11.00	5.24		Continental	125.00	-5.00	-4.00	
Westwood	14.00	1.00	7.14		South Atlantic	71.00	-3.00	-4.24	
Indian Corp	45.00	2.00	4.44		SLM	124.00	-5.00	-4.01	
Penn. Pk	927.00	32.00	3.45		Philadelphia Pk	17.00	-1.00	-5.88	
WPA Financial	\$218.00	11.00	5.07		Metropolitan	73.00	-2.00	-2.71	
MARKET LEADERS									
TOP 20 VOLUMES at 5pm									
Bank	37.30	Stuyvesant	7.70	Bank	37.30	Stuyvesant	7.70	Bank	37.30
Alcoa Group	22.00	Stuyvesant	7.70	Alcoa Group	22.00	Stuyvesant	7.70	Alcoa Group	22.00
Bank	37.30	Stuyvesant	7.70	Bank	37.30	Stuyvesant	7.70	Bank	37.30
Alcoa Group	22.00	Stuyvesant	7.70	Alcoa Group	22.00	Stuyvesant	7.70	Alcoa Group	22.00
Bank	37.30	Stuyvesant	7.70	Bank	37.30	Stuyvesant	7.70	Bank	37.30
Alcoa Group	22.00	Stuyvesant	7.70	Alcoa Group	22.00	Stuyvesant	7.70	Alcoa Group	22.00
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Alcoa Group	22.00	Stuyvesant	7.70	Alcoa Group	22.00	Stuyvesant	7.70	Alcoa Group	22.00
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Alcoa Group	22.00	Stuyvesant	7.70	Alcoa Group	22.00	Stuyvesant	7.70	Alcoa Group	22.00
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Date	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	

SPORT

The 127th Open Championship: The very young amateur and the relatively old pro ensure a memorable tournament

Vintage O'Meara reaches maturity

BY ANDY FARRELL
at Royal Birkdale

THE LASTING memory of a memorable Open Championship must be the roar that greeted Justin Rose's last stroke as an amateur. The thunderous eruption from the grandstands at the 18th

rocked the nearby media centre, the wait for the television pictures to catch up with the live action unbearable.

Golf may appear fuddy-duddy – a man wins a Lamborghini for a lucky hole-in-one and is banished from the game – but where else can a 17-year-old amateur compete against the best professionals in the world?

Rose, bidding to become the youngest winner since Young Tom Morris in 1868, finished two strokes outside the four-hole play-off in which Mark O'Meara beat Brian Watts by two strokes on Sunday.

"The golf ball sitting on the ground doesn't know how old you are," said O'Meara after becoming the oldest man in modern times to win two majors in a season. O'Meara had created a comfortable life for his family well before he reached his forties, but at 41 his golfing career has suddenly achieved a higher plane.

"If I could put my finger on it, I'd have done it earlier in my career," said the man whose sideboard will bulge with the Masters trophy as well as the claret jug. "It is just not that easy. I think it's maturity and time, just a little bit of patience and realising to just hang in there. Usually, when I have the chance to get the job done, I have got it done. Today was very, very special."

After Ian Baker-Finch won at Birkdale seven years ago, the Australian offered the man with whom he had played the final round a drink from the trophy. Yesterday, O'Meara flew back to Orlando with Tiger Woods, whose own excellent finish of three birdies in the last four holes left him one shot away from the play-off. "If Tiger wants a sip from the claret jug then he's more than welcome," O'Meara said, "because I imagine his name will be on this trophy some day too."

Woods, the world No 1, was using a putter discarded by O'Meara. "What did he finish? One back, that's why it is the back-up putter," the winner said. Their relationship, cemented for life when Woods put a green jacket on the shoulders of a friend 19 years older, has been a big factor in O'Meara's success.

"Tiger has been a driving force for me. To go out and play with such a young talented player who has taken the game to another level has helped everybody work on their games and I've used that to my advantage."

"He has pushed me a little bit. You know, Tiger keeps saying to my friends: 'Mark can really play and he doesn't get the recognition he deserves'. I'm not looking for that. I would as soon let him be in the line-up. As I said after Augusta, I think I'm a very nice player but I don't classify myself as a great player."

"Jack Nicklaus, Byron Nelson, Ben Hogan, Sam Snead, Arnold Palmer, you can go down the list, players who have won a lot of major championships and been incredible ambassadors to the game."

"I consider myself a consistent player, a player that tries his best at all times. I try to treat my fellow competitors with the utmost respect



Mark O'Meara, his caddy, and offspring celebrate victory in the Open at Royal Birkdale on Sunday, his second major of the season

David Ashdown

and, maybe because of that, good things happen."

In a word perfect champion's speech – always "the Open", not "the British Open" – O'Meara paid tribute to Rose by calling his achievement "phenomenal". He added: "I know at 17 there was no way I could even come close to playing like that. It goes to show the game is changing. More and more young players are coming on board. Kids are good players at an earlier age, even faster now."

"They have good technique, they are well taught, they're strong and the intimidation factor is not there. A lot of it is to do with the media attention the game has received over the last 10 years. The growth of the game has helped to promote younger players."

"There are so many international players throughout the world who

have risen their game to an incredible level to make it a worldwide game. That's why this championship is itself recognised throughout the world as a great, great championship. It is incredibly gratifying to know my name is on the trophy. If you look at the names that have won the Open Championship and the golf courses that they've won on, it is a tremendous honour."

As well as Birkdale staging a dramatic, event-packed Open, Sir Michael Bonallack agreed that the stature of the championship has possibly never been higher. "The players are the ones who make the championship and we get all the best players in the world," he said.

The event is beamed to all corners of the globe and with Watts in contention, leading almost for three days, the television audience in Japan was a record.

Rose's performance, the best by an amateur for 45 years, was all the more notable for the relative absence of the leading home players on the leaderboard. Raymond Russell tied with Rose for fourth place, but Nick Faldo and Lee Westwood sunk over the weekend while Colin Montgomerie was watching the last two rounds at home on television.

Montgomerie's Open record continues to baffle and frustrate, but just now it would appear some technical faults have crept in during the 10 months he has been without a coach. But Europe's five-time No 1 should not panic. He is only 35, at which age O'Meara still had six years to wait before reaching nirvana.

"I am taking three weeks off and I am going to spend time with my family," O'Meara said. "I will savour this victory as much, if not more, than what happened at Augusta."

Choice of tours for Watts

BRIAN WATTS was last night contemplating a dream come true – even after losing a play-off for the Open Championship.

The 32-year-old American was beaten by his compatriot Mark O'Meara at Royal Birkdale after they had tied on level par after four rounds.

And although the £188,000 prize money will not make up for missing out on a first major title, it will allow Watts to compete again on the US Tour.

The Montreal-born player has earned a living on the Japanese Tour for the last five years, unable to afford a house and living in hotels for weeks at a time.

Ten victories in Asia have given him a good standard of living, but with his home in Oklahoma he has longed to return to the United States, and now he has his chance – if he decides to take it.

"I haven't even thought about it, to be honest," said Watts, ranked 35th in the world before the tournament began. "I guess I'll make up my mind some other time. I've no idea how much money I won. Hopefully I gained some respect for the Japanese Tour."

"A lot of people have been writing bad things about Jumbo Ozaki. I can tell you he's a much better player than I am. For people to say 'the guys over there aren't good', those

people don't come over and watch the play."

"If you would have told me I'd have been in a play-off at the Open Championship at the beginning of the week I wouldn't have believed you."

O'Meara had no doubt that Watts has what it takes to make it on the tour – he won just £40,000 back in 1991 – and graciously added: "I've played with Brian two or three times and he's a very fine player."

"His record in Japan is tremendous and now the world knows what kind of player Brian Watts is. I think he would be welcomed on the tour and would be an excellent addition."

Tale of the priceless amateur

WHEN JUSTIN ROSE walked into the clubhouse after what had looked like a school field trip, the crowd rose to him as one. The applause was deafening, the appreciation for an extraordinary achievement spontaneous and heartfelt.

An hour earlier Rose had prompted a huge roar from the massed ranks around the 18th green by chipping in from 45 yards for a birdie three. "It was a tough shot out of the rough and over a bunker and I told my caddy I was going to go for it. I could have bailed out but I had nothing to lose. I couldn't believe it. It was one of those incredible moments."

For the 127th Open, the old silver claret jug was already overflowing with a rare vintage and about the only thing missing was that Rose's miraculous chip did not get him into the play-off. As it was, his final shot as an amateur was etched into the memory as emphatically as his name had been engraved on the silver medal that he received as the championship's leading amateur.

Justin Rose won the silver medal and all the acclaim to stun the golfing world. By Tim Glover

Leading amateur? Of the original field of 156 of the world's best golfers, only three professionals – Mark O'Meara, Brian Watts and Tiger Woods – finished ahead of Rose. And the 17-year-old (he will be 18 on 30 July) had battled through two rounds of final qualifying at the adjoining Hillsdale Course. There, a double bogey at the second hole seemed to put him in danger of not qualifying, but he turned to a Hampshire reporter (the Rose family live in Hook) and said: "Don't worry."

In hindsight, that was great preparation," Rose said. "It was quite gruelling."

When the Open returns to Carnoustie next year, the R & A, not to mention the USPGA, will be hoping that the Rose-Woods rivalry will once again be a feature of the championship. For once, Jack Nicklaus was not mislead.

Had he turned professional a week earlier, Rose would have received a cheque for

£70,000 for his Open exploits. "I don't regret it one little bit," he said.

Tomorrow, he will be at Hillview, near Amsterdam, for the TNT Dutch Open, having received an invitation from the sponsors. On Sunday evening he and his father, Ken, who will continue to nurture Rose's career, signed a contract with Carnegie, an Edinburgh based company that will find him sponsors (not the most difficult job in the world) and manage his affairs.

The relationship did not get off to the smoothest of starts. The men from Carnegie were refused entry to Rose's press conference on Sunday because they didn't have the right accreditation.

"The whole week was unbelievable," Rose said. "I was put at ease by the crowd. The incredible support I had didn't give me time to be nervous. I had a lot of fun and luckily I played well."

Strolling around the links like Just William, Rose did a lot of smiling which endeared him to

the galleries. Few people expected the teenager to remain on the leaderboard, but he appeared to view the pressure of the occasion through rose-tinted glasses. He had the game and the temperament to cope with one of the most dramatic final rounds in the championship's history.

"To tell you the truth I wasn't surprised that my swing held up. I think it's technically pretty sound. In that kind of situation it's your mental state that is the tell-tale sign. At the beginning of the week I just wanted to be part of it. I didn't realise I would be such a part of it. Going up the 18th I almost had the feeling of being the winner."

As for Tiger, he proved he could tame a classic links course and but for a three-putt on the first he could well have deprived his friend O'Meara of the title. There was another change in Woods. Twelve months ago unpaid volunteers from the Army Golf Society, who have the considerable responsibility of ensuring the world No 1 has a safe and unhindered passage



The performance of Justin Rose, the 17-year-old amateur, was described by the 41-year-old winner, Mark O'Meara, as 'phenomenal'

David Ashdown

through the Open, were not impressed when he left Troon without so much as a "thank you". On Sunday, Woods was full of praise for his escort party and

presented them with autographed items from his locker. The Army boys have been invited to perform a similar role

in next year's US Open at Pinehurst, North Carolina. On the evidence of Birkdale, the Rose show has a chance of rivalling Tigermania.

Mullally
buckles
down to
his task

Klusener

Salisbury

Women to

Mullally buckles down to his task

Leicestershire's left-arm pace bowler has won an England recall by working on his game. By Jon Culley

SEVERAL THEORIES may be put to the test should Alan Mullally be selected among a trio of possible Test comebacks at Trent Bridge. One concerns the claim that the magnificent and vast new grandstand at the Radcliffe Road end is causing the ball to swing considerably more than previously, another that the Leicestershire left-arm is a much better bowler than when he won his last cap, some 18 months ago.

A third, which applies also to Graeme Hick and Ian Salisbury, is that there is merit in England's habitual tendency to take up old, discarded choices, give them a tweak and expect them to work again.

At least there is no argument over the middle one. The measured approach and new consistency in Mullally's bowling is reflected in 41 first-class wickets at 18.14 runs each this season and a fulsome endorsement from Leicestershire's shrewd and wise cricket manager, Jack Birkenshaw.

"He is thinking a lot more about his bowling and given himself more control by reducing his run-up, although he is still quick," Birkenshaw said. "He has a beautiful action and swings it both ways but the real bonus is that he does not have the bad days that he used to have. He has bowled well and consistently all season."

The secret is probably nothing more complicated than the priceless benefit of maturity. Now 29, he has worked off the raw edges of youth and worked out how to play the game. Most cricketers with a modicum of intelligence will get there in the

end, to the point at which they realise where they had been wasting their ability in the past.

"When I was a kid I reckoned that if I could bowl as fast as Dennis Lillee or Bob Willis, then I'd play Test cricket," he said. "Eventually, it dawned on me that there is a bit more to it than that."

If he has a role model now, it is Wasim Akram, the master of his art, the left-arm's left-arm. Heroes do not really fit in with Mullally's relaxed, languid approach to life but Pakistan's great all-rounder comes as close as any. When Wasim expressed approving noises about his reshaped action earlier this season, Mullally felt hugely proud.

Although born in Southend, Mullally was raised in Perth, Western Australia, and retained little obvious sign of his English roots. Loose limbed, with a slow, loping stride, this tall bleached blond looks every inch a son of the surf. His favourite expression, at one time at least, was "go with the flow", which seemed to capture his philosophy perfectly.

Appearances, however, can be deceptive. Had he gone with the flow when England cast him adrift, one Test into the New Zealand tour the winter before last, he might easily have washed up amid the fiasco of the county game, never again to be considered for higher duty. Instead, he took stock of what he had done right and wrong in a nine-Test career, and buckled down.

Even so, it was in part chance that brought about the

changes that have proved so beneficial. "At Leicester, the guys used to tell me I was a more effective bowler off a shorter run-up and I was forced into it by a bit of a knee injury last season. I worked on it during the winter and it has meant I have a lot more control. I get closer to the stumps and I'm a lot better balanced at the point of delivery."

"Wasim gave me a bit of advice last season, explaining the way he holds the ball to get inswing, and when he saw me earlier this season he came up to me and said he thought my action was looking good."

"He is a superb bloke as well as a great cricketer and for him to say something like that meant a lot to me."

A winter's work in the

weights room at the gym brought about startling physical changes, adding four inches to his chest measurement, but the subtle differences in his mental approach have been equally important, if not more so.

"I accepted that the name of the game was not necessarily to bowl quick but to get people out, so I started to think about

what I was doing much more than I had before. Now if I'm taking a bit of punishment, I try to look at the situation rationally and fix it. You have to try different things, to mix it up a bit."

Delighted though he is in winning recognition anew, his place in the squad clinched when he took 5 for 62 against Northamptonshire last week with David Graveney and

Graham Gooch watching. Mullally still gives the impression sometimes that he could take it or leave it.

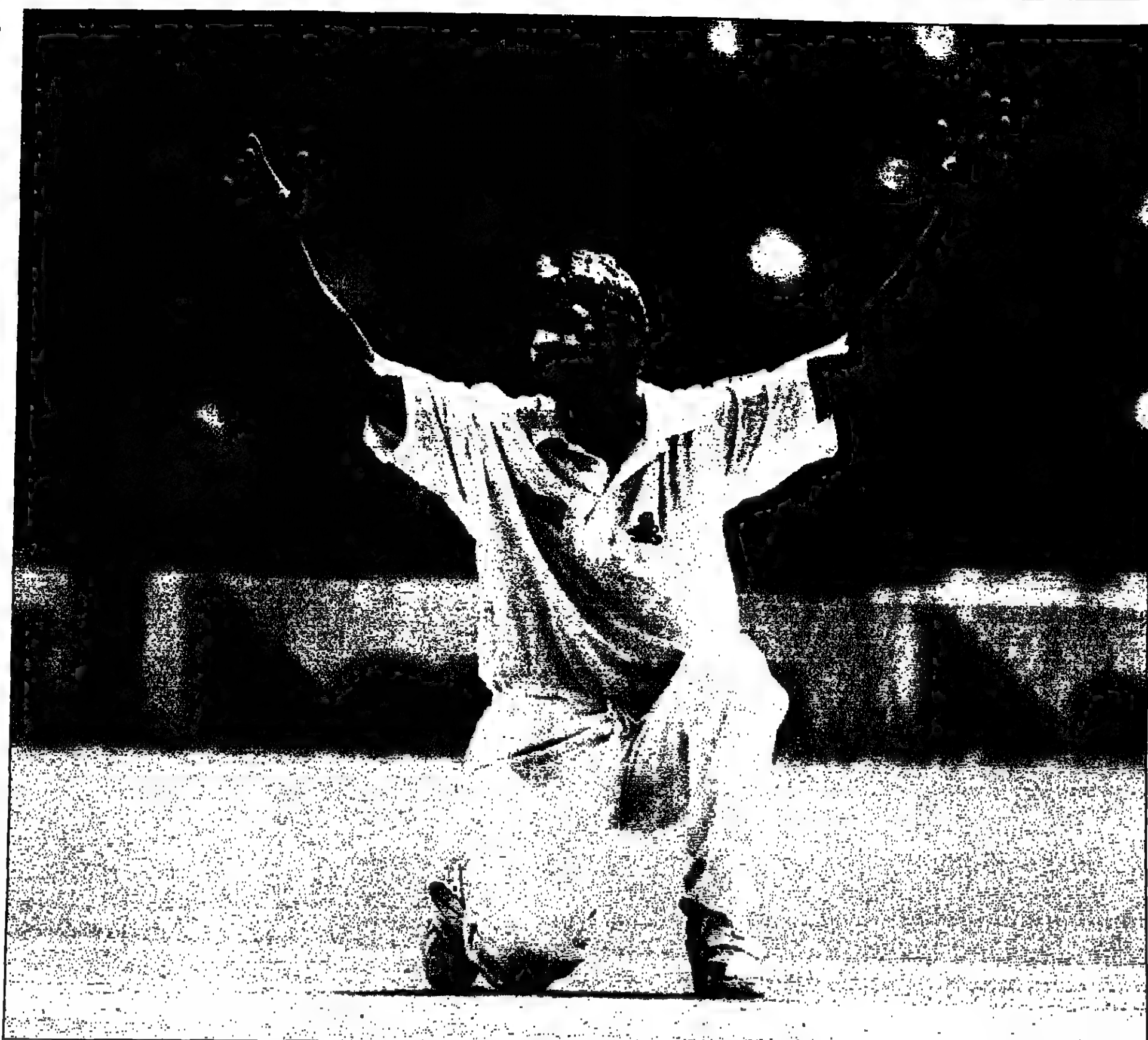
There is a suspicion that this has not always gone down well with those in a position to influence his career but Birkenshaw insists the outer shell conceals a depth of character not always obvious.

"He looks a bit casual but he

is a generous lad and he cares deeply about his cricket and about other people."

"He has had his ups and downs with England but perhaps they did not understand him as well as we do."

Should the new geography of Trent Bridge have the anticipated effect, perhaps this time Mullally will be around long enough to put that right.



The measured approach and new consistency in Alan Mullally's bowling is reflected in 41 first-class wickets this season

Chris Turvey/Empics

Klusener's tour curtailed by ankle injury

BY JON CULLEY

Derbyshire 337 and 337-4
South Africa 453-9
Match drawn

SOUTH AFRICA'S preparations for the fourth Test at Trent Bridge on Thursday, which concluded with a draw here yesterday, were overshadowed by the news that the all-rounder Lance Klusener will miss the remainder of the tour because of his ankle injury.

The 26-year-old from Natal,

who sustained the injury in the third Test, flew home to Pretoria last week amid hopes that a specialist examination would clear him to return, possibly even to play at Nottingham.

But those hopes had to be abandoned yesterday when a tendon in his left foot was found to be so badly damaged that he will not play again until October at the earliest. He will have surgery next week and his foot will be in plaster for four weeks.

The injury means that apart from the remainder of the cur-

rent tour, Klusener is also ruled out of the Commonwealth Games in autumn. The hope is that he will be fit for South Africa's series against the West Indies, starting in November.

A decision on a replacement has not yet been made. South Africa had already resigned themselves to starting without Klusener at Trent Bridge but have a further Test to come, as well as the triangular series against England and Sri Lanka.

Bob Woolmer, the South African coach, said: "It is dis-

appointing for Lance because he has had a good tour, but at least we know what the problem is."

After toying with Derbyshire's bowlers on Sunday, the tourists were unable to turn a substantial first-innings lead into victory here yesterday. Not only did the county side overturn a deficit of 116, they then batted through the day for the loss of only four wickets to attain an honourable draw.

Derbyshire have a good recent record against touring sides, having beaten New

Zealand in 1994, India two years later and Australia last summer. There was never much chance of their claiming another victim here, however, despite the lure of an £11,000 prize, after the South Africans had chosen to put in some batting practice on Sunday rather than open up the contest by declaring in arrears.

Given that the South African line-up, with the exception of Allan Donald, will almost certainly be the one England will face in Nottingham, this was a good effort by Derbyshire, who

in contrast were considerably below full strength.

They had Michael Slater to thank in the main, the Australian opener recapturing his best form with a superb 185 in the first innings, which narrowly shaded Hansie Cronje's 185 as the highlight of the three days, and which he followed with 63 before an attempt to dislodge Paul Adams with a square cut resulted instead in a catch behind the wicket.

In contrast with their first-innings, rescued only when the fall

joined forces with Slater to engineer a recovery, Derbyshire had others to stand in the tourists' way. Matthew Cassar, who made a century against Sussex in May, enhanced his reputation with an unbeaten 91, but not enough to displace Michael May as man of the hour.

May, in his third season, is some way from establishing his credentials, yet his own record against touring sides is extraordinary. His 101 here yesterday followed an unbeaten 107 against Pakistan A last

summer and gave him an aggregate of 450 runs in six completed innings against overseas visitors, including 67 against the senior Australians in 1997.

He enjoyed some luck yesterday. Dropped off Shaun Pollock on 25, he revealed a knack for getting four off the bottom edge more than once, much to the frustration of Makhaya Ntini, who at least gained some revenge when May, having reached 101 from 201 balls with 14 fours, edged the next delivery into Boucher's gloves.

Salisbury supported by prayer

IAN SALISBURY returns to the Test arena at Trent Bridge this week with a host of well-wishers and with his Surrey spin-partner Saqlain Mushtaq praying for him.

Saqlain rang the leg-spinner yesterday morning to tell him he had also instructed his parents back in Lahore to pray for his friend.

Much has been written this season about Salisbury's debt to the Australian Terry Jenner, the leg-spin guru of Shane Warne who gave the 28-year-old vital coaching last winter. But

Salisbury's battle back to the top, after almost two years out of the international scene, has also been about his own mental strength and the support of family and friends.

The partnership he has forged with Saqlain, both on and off the field, has been a big factor in his re-emergence as a Test-class bowler.

"I've been aware of a lot of goodwill towards me in recent weeks and I think a few people have changed their opinions about me as a cricketer," Salisbury said.

Salisbury, who made his England debut in 1992, now has the maturity not to be self-conscious about his Test record of just 18 wickets from nine games at an average of 64.

Bowling regularly with the Pakistani off-spinner, the pair have helped to push Surrey to the top of the County Championship table, and that has confirmed for Salisbury that he has the ability to compete with the best.

"We are great friends," Salisbury said. "He's a brilliant bowler, a real genius, and for

someone who's only 21 he has amazing skill."

"Saqlain has taught me a lot, especially of the need to be shrewd and to get the right field. I hate giving runs away these days whereas before I was happy to see someone hit me several times through a certain area. I thought I could get them out playing in that way. But why should you let that happen?"

"Saqlain is like lots of spinners from the sub-continent in that he will try to cut off a batsman's strength, even with a man on the boundary, and I

think that's the right way to approach this job. I love getting people out caught on the boundary."

"We talk a lot about our bowling and we really enjoy each other's company off the field." Salisbury is looking forward to linking up with another off-spinner, Robert Croft, in the fourth Test. "I really hope we go in with two specialist spinners," he added. "I know Croft has yet to take a wicket in the series, but sometimes that sort of thing happens and you feel you can't even buy one."

Women to contest their own Ashes

THE ENGLAND and Australian women's teams will compete for their own version of the Ashes this year after a ceremonial bat-burning at Lord's yesterday. The sides will play for the Ashes in three four-day Tests, starting at Guildford on 5 August.

The original Ashes, played for by the men, are in a small urn containing the burned remains of a ball used in a match between the two countries in

1882. Yesterday - in a ceremony attended by MCC Secretary Roger Knight, Women's Cricket Association president Norma Izard, England captain Karen Smithies and Australia's skipper Belinda Clark - a bat was burned alongside a copy of the WCA constitution and badge.

The WCA will no longer exist after September when a merger with the England and Wales Cricket Board is completed.

The formation of the women's Ashes was the idea of Barbara Daniels, the English Cricket Board's national manager for women's cricket and vice-captain of the England team.

"It was an historic event," Daniels said. "We thought of burning a ball but wanted something to signify both teams so used a bat which was signed by both sets of players. We are planning regular Ashes contests which will become

significant occasions." The Ashes will be sealed inside a mounted wooden cricket ball, and it will be a major surprise if Australia do not take them home first - they are 4-0 up in the five-match one-day series which finishes at Lord's today. Alec Stewart will gather England's new-look fourth Test squad around him in Nottingham today and decide whether the 20-year-old Lancashire youngster Andrew Flintoff will

in the side to face South Africa on Thursday.

Flintoff, who replaces the out of form Ben Hollis in England's Test squad, already has the backing of the chairman of selectors, David Graveney. "Andrew Flintoff and Ben Hollis are vying for the same place in the England team - and Andrew has pipped him on the grounds of current form," Graveney said of the all-rounder.

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Vodafone Challenge Series

Derbyshire v South Africa

DERBY (Final day of three): Derbyshire drew with South Africa.

Derbyshire won toss.

DERBYSHIRE — First innings 337 (Slater 185).

SOUTH AFRICA — First innings 453 for 9 dec (Cronje 185).

Cullinan 80, Smith 5-88.

DERBYSHIRE — Second innings Over/Out 57 for 0.

Second Innings Count:

M J Slater c Boucher b Adams.....63 0 11 110 158

M R May c Boucher b Ntini.....101 0 14 205 235

R M S Weston bow b Kallis.....3 0 0 17 23

M E Cassar not out.....51 1 14 178 186

T A Trewats run out.....27 0 3 46 68

B L Spence not out.....32 0 5 79 75

Extras (b) (lb) (nb).....20

Total (for 4, 105.1 overs).....337

Yell: 1-141, 2-160, 3-199, 4-264.

Derbyshire bats: M J Slater, G M Roberts, P A Dore, T M Smith.

Bowling: S M Pollock 16-8-35-0, M Ntini 17-1-69-1, W J Cronje 5-1-19-0, M Hayward 11-0-41-0, P R Adams 28-4-71-1, J H Kallis 13-5-43-1, D J Cullinan 13-4-47-0.

Umpires: B Dudson and J H Harris.

AXA League

Lancashire v Worcestershire

OLD TRAFFORD (One day)

Lancashire won toss.

Worcestershire

Runs GS M A S R

T M Moody not out.....4 0 0 15 14

V S Solanki not out.....3 0 0 7 14

Extras (w).....2

Total (3.4 overs).....11

To bat: G A Hick, D A Leatherdale, W P C Weston, A Haleez, 15 J Rhodes, S R Lampitt, R K Illingworth, P J Newport, R Chapman.

Bowling: P J Martin 2-0-4-0, I D Austin 1-4-0-7-0.

Umpires: N T Plevin and B Leadbeater.

Sussex v Middlesex

MOVE (One day)

Middlesex won toss.

Middlesex

Runs GS M A S R

*K R Brown run out.....2 0 0 16 26

J L Langer run out.....3 0 0 4 112

O A Shah c Kirby b Bevan.....37 0 4 74 170

P N Woollam bow b Martin-Jenkins.....0 0 0 4 1

D C Nash not out.....29 0 1 36 99

Extras (b) (w).....8

Total (for 4, 22.2 overs).....70

Falls: 1-5, 2-10, 3-16, 4-70.

To bat: J P Hewitt, D J Goodchild, R L Johnson, A G J Fraser, A R C Fraser, K P Dutch.

Bowling: R J Kirby 5-2-17-0, R S C Martin-Jenkins 8-2-12-1, A D Edwards 4-0-22-0, M G Bevan 1-2-0-6-1, M A Robinson 3-0-10-0.

Umpires: G I Burgess and J P Steele.

Today's fixtures (17.00 unless stated)

AXA LEAGUE (One day): Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Essex.

FIFTH WOMEN'S ONE DAY INTERNATIONAL (One day): Lord's: England v Australia (10.45).

AON TROPHY (One day): New Road: Glamorgan 229-8 (L O Jones 48no, I J Thomas 42, J E K Schofield 3-36) Worcester-

shire 231-8 (E J Wilson 72, D J Pipe 42no, O T Pugh 3-63).

Worcestershire won by one wicket. Northants: Northampton 232-5 (G A White 57, A J Swann 50, P R Montgomerie 45).

Minor Counties 175-8 (T Tray 60) Northampton won by 57 runs.

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Swain (left) battles to hold off Pilsudski and cause a 16-1 upset in last year's King George



George **PA**

Usterman could still be there to haunt Deitert.

Romanov has twice beaten Silver Fairbairn, who defeated Swain in the Coronation Cup in June. "Mine has certainly improved from three to four and may still be improving," Reid said. "I'd very much like to win another King George. The bigger the race, the bigger the buzz. Even if you've done it before it never goes away."

4.45		MANNY BERNSTEIN BOOKMAKERS 'IN RUNNING' MAIDEN HANDICAP (CLASS E) £3,750 added 1m 6f Penalty Value £3,158	
1	2-9303	SILKY BOLDNESS (10) (M) E O'Brien, Miss G. Kelleway 4 D.O.	✓ K Fallon 14
2	0-433	MANIFAN (19) Anthony P. Ryan, R. Johnson, Hughie 3 S 10	✓ J Reid 2
3	05-43	SHORRA WA JAHJ (16) (F) Shaheen Ahmed M. Muddus, M. Jarvis 3 P 7	✓ P Redburn 10
4	06-34	DANCING QUEEN (14) (F) Doreen St John, M. H. 4 B 9	✓ L Dalton 16
5	0-0000	PERFECTLY PERFECT (10) (F) J. P. Ryan, M. H. 4 B 9	✓ J. P. Ryan 16
6	0-0005	PEZZANE (26) (M) R. Robinson, J. Arnold 3 S 7	✓ M Hills 16
7	0-0003	PERTWISTE MISSOR (10) (M) Michael C. Williams, J. P. Ryan 4 B 6	✓ D McKeown 17
8	06-43	BE A BOB (16) (F) Victor Chandler (Equal Last R. Walsby) 4 S 10	✓ B Blackwell 10
9	0-0000	TOURIST (10) (F) J. P. Ryan, M. H. 4 B 9	✓ J. P. Ryan 16
10	0-0000	COULMAY BAY (17) (F) S. P. Farnham, Dr. J. Knight 3 S 10	✓ Lones 10
11	0-0004	IMAL SHOT (11) (M) Michael Muddus, S. Dore 3 S 8	✓ J. Rign 11
12	0-0000	BAHANEEN (16) (M) G. C. P. Ryan, M. H. 4 B 9	✓ S. Canon 10
13	0-0000	SHIRAZ SO (16) (F) J. P. Ryan, M. H. 4 B 9	✓ J. P. Ryan 16
14	0-0000	CAKE SIREN (26) (F) J. P. Ryan, M. H. 4 B 9	✓ M. Burt 23
15	0-0400	BRIGHTLY SPECIAL (17) (M) R. M. O'Brien, T. O'Brien 6 T 7	✓ R. Mullen 23

FORM GUIDE

Sixth Bloodstock: Placed on three of four starts this season, including twice over this distance on good to firm, third of six to Ohio at Saratoga last time.

Seventh Bloodstock: One of two winners of stakes at a single yearling sale to St. Bern Circle in handicaps in April (twice good) last time.

Eighth Bloodstock: Third attempt off this mark in handicaps, having come third of six in a stakes race at Saratoga last time.

Ninth Bloodstock: Won't have much chance here as he's never been competitive at this level.

Tenth Bloodstock: By Safford's Works. One previous try at beyond 'win' was at Wolverhampton where third of six in handicap last August. Never a threat on representative level; poor machine. He has raced mostly in Europe. Miffing impression and probably needs further than this.

Eleventh Bloodstock: Starts this season when fourth at Newbury and fifth at Nottingham last time. At York at age 3, he won a stakes race.

Twelfth Bloodstock: Has dropped from mark of 96 to 80 in November and fifth at Perthshire last time.

[illegible]

■ Ramoos was yesterday confirmed a runner for the Reed Print Beeswing Stakes at Newcastle on Saturday by trainer Ben Hanbury. Speaking at Ayr races he said: "Ramoos definitely runs. He's in great form, the firmer the ground the better and maybe David Loder won't run Diktat." He added with a smile: "I can't imagine David would run a Group One horse on firm ground." Diktat has been aimed at the seven-furlong contest after being an 11th hour withdrawal from the July Cup at Newmarket because of the firm going. However, Mark Johnston's Fizzed is not certain to be in the line-up for the Group Three event. "I not sure yet whether she runs or not," the Middleham trainer said. "I'll have to wait and see the weights and ratings of the other entries before I decide."

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sion him most to do.

15 -50343 PARDAN (17) B Palmy 4 8 0 T Sprake 15
15 -52550 PHANST (27) Mica K 3 7 10 D Doe (3) 11 B
..... 15 -63687 - - - - -

Minimum weight: 731 10B. True handicap weight: Parus 731 5B
BETTING: 5-1 Taak Chai, 11-2 Sovereign Crest, 8-1 Fast Forward Fred,
7-1 Shamir, 8-1 Parden, 10-1 Woody's Bay, Limestone, 12-1 others

FORM VERDICT

It was only a matter of time before the

in this fast gas into the ground there would be a question-mark against a number of leading favorites. Limelight, who usually runs well here, merits respect, but MINNISAM looks less exposed and comes from the small stable which has a good line on modest staying form via Brindie's Pride.

4.30 **MANNY BERNSTEIN BOOKMAKERS LEICESTER HANDICAP (CLASS D)**
£5,000 added 5f 161yds

2	00000	THEY WANT AGAIN (13) (C) S C Williams 6:11	J Holland 15 B
3	00000	MANGUS (6) K Cunningham 6:20	M Roberts 2
4	35-000	CARBON RAY (10) Lady Hemes 3:98	A Clark 7
5	00-000	SIR JOE JOY (14) (C) P Murphy 3:98	D Hamilton 11
6	2295-	INDIAN SLEIGH (200) M Spencer 2:24	A Eddley (7) 1
7	54582	BRAMBLE BELL (13) (C) M Barczak 4:94	Quinn 16
8	10-000	LADY CHARLOTTE (13) (C) D Eworth 3:44	M Pollard 5 B
9	-0340	BOWD CALCULATION (148) (C) J Brady 4:22	D Drenne 6
10	610050	LONGWICK LUCK (13) (C) W Akers 5:21	Dane O'Neill 12
11	400000	MAJESTY MAN (13) (C) E Wheeler 5:21	S Whitworth 17 B
12	040263	MALE VENTURE (USA) (12) 1987	

BOOKMAKERS
ROCKLESTONE
D added 2m 1f

12-0000 Poland (S) 8
12-0000 Clark 1
12-0000 Cochran 15
12-0000 Daly 23
12-0000 Flory 23

12-0000 MYTTONS MISTAKE (14) R Hedges 5 9 12
12-0000 CAIDA EQUINA (R) (C) (2) (2) N Brooks 4 8 8
12-0000 SHAFI (USA) (4) (C) (2) (2) (2) Cherron 4 8 1
12-0000 713 (USA) (4) (C) (2) (2) (2) P Goods 7 7 3
12-0000 AFTER EIGHT (16) (2) M Saunders 4 8 4
12-0000 SPOOLS APPEAL (16) L G Connet 3 7 1
12-0000 -17 declared -

Minimum weight: 75 lbs. True handicap weight: Apple Sauce: 75 lbs
BETTING: 3-1 Shelli, 6-1 Myttons Mistake, 10-1 Thom Man Again, Bramble
Breeders' Stakes

C Lowther 13
A McGloire 3
P McCabe 9
S Drome 4
D Harlefin 7
D Holland 14
785. A Clark 10
Jenna O'Hall 5
J. Adams 8

100

Athletics: Scot on the rise after barnstorming 300m victory at Gateshead over cream of British one-lap sprinters



Doug Walker (centre) extends his lead towards the finishing line of Sunday's 300m at Gateshead, leaving Iwan Thomas (second right) and Mark Richardson (far right) trailing

Clubs asked to vote on new body

BY MIKE ROWBOTTOM

THE DAY of judgement approaches for British athletics. Dave Moorcroft, the man who has carried the main burden of turning the domestic sport around following last October's financial collapse of the British Athletic Federation, announced yesterday that clubs would be sent detailed proposals for a new UK body on which they would have to vote before 30 September.

After an exhaustive period of consultation, the small steering committee over which Moorcroft presides as chief executive is asking the clubs, effectively, to back them or sack them.

Five core principles have been formulated, and clubs will be asked to return a vote – either for or against. If the plans are favoured, a new body Athletics UK, would come into being in January of next year.

"For the first time on such a major issue, you are being asked directly to influence the future of athletics," Moorcroft's message to the clubs reads.

"If we are ultimately to implement these proposals with passion and conviction, we must first know whether the sport is behind us." The passion which Moorcroft and co are expecting is a relative measure. In the past, the rate of response for club votes has been around 20 per cent.

"I am hoping at least 30 per cent will make the effort to respond," Moorcroft said. "It will be a hard challenge to get a lot of clubs to vote, and I expect there will be apathy from smaller clubs who feel it doesn't really affect them." The key proposals seek to streamline a sport which came to grief largely because of political infighting and a cumbersome, geographical infrastructure of committees.

Proposal four reads: "To ensure greater accountability and effectiveness, no decision making or working group will have more than 10 people in it. (This contrasts with the former BAF, which had groups of 20-30, rising to 64 in the case of the BAF council)." All appointments will be based "on competence and skills, rather than geographical or functional representation" – thus seeking to avoid the block voting which has made progress so difficult in the sport.

The other proposals relate to the plan to split the sport into three parts – performance, development and competitions – and a stated intention that Athletics UK will seek to support rather than intervene "and over-ride control". Finally, it is proposed that an overall president of Athletics UK will be elected by the clubs who will hold no other office during their time.

Chinese sports authorities have banned two athletes found guilty of doping offences from competition for two years and their coaches for one year, according to the *Guangming Daily* yesterday.

The two were named as Li Yi, from eastern Jiangsu province, and Zhou Jing, from northern Hebei. The report did not specifically identify their sports, although the punishments were handed down by the Chinese Track and Field Association.

Two other athletes, Chen Yuxiang, from eastern Shandong province, and You Hanshan, from the south-eastern city of Xiamen, escaped with warnings for stimulant use, although their competition results were annulled and their coaches banned for three months.

Chinese sports officials have vowed to take tough measures against drug cheats and their coaches. As part of heightened anti-drug measures, the Chinese Swimming Association plans to impose life bans on first-time steroid offenders.

No standing still for Walker

BY MIKE ROWBOTTOM

DOUG WALKER is starting to make people sit up and take notice. The 24-year-old Edinburgh sprinter, who humbled Britain's leading 400 metres runners over the hybrid distance of 300m at Sunday's Bupa Games in Gateshead, has carried on where he left off last season, having helped Britain to win the sprint relay bronze at the World Championships.

Last month, having been given the British 200m place at the European Cup in St Petersburg after much deliberation by the selectors, who also considered the strong claims of the 21-year-old Julian Golding, Walker fully repaid the faith invested in him.

Despite suffering from a debilitating stomach upset – a legacy of drinking St Petersburg's notorious water – Walker imposed himself on the race, establishing an early lead and crossing the line well clear of his nearest rival, then vomiting copiously at the side of the track.

He had given everything and that commitment was evident again on Sunday night as the Scot entered the home straight with a three-metre lead over the likes of Mark Richardson, Iwan Thomas and Roger Black. The trackside interview with Channel 4 had to be delayed as the Scot – who is always ill immediately after racing – took a little retching time. "I do most of my training really fast because of my stomach," Walker said. "It won't stand volume work. As for racing – it's got to the stage where if I'm not ill I think I haven't run hard enough."

Walker, who was only drafted into the Gateshead race after intensive lobbying of the organisers, cut a less remarkable figure than the one

who had competed in Russia in one obvious respect: the dyed ginger hair, which made him look like a member of Romania's World Cup football team, was a thing of the past. He was back to his natural black.

It was, of course, only a 300m race on Sunday what Walker described afterwards as a "silly event", even though it earned him \$20,000 (£12,500) on the night for winning in what was a European and Commonwealth record of 31.55sec. Had he run just 0.09sec faster, the world record – and a further \$50,000 – would have been his. Who knows how close he might have come had the evening not been one of grey skies and relentless rain.

Black, who captained Britain's victorious team in St Petersburg, was

sufficiently impressed by the performance to advise Walker to consider moving up distances.

"It is a good job he isn't a 400m runner," Black said. "Maybe he should think about it one day. And if I were him, I would think about it soon. It was a fantastic run."

Black believes that the future of British one-lap running will lie with natural sprinters who move up to the distance. Walker does regard himself ultimately as a 200m to 400m runner, but the jump, if it occurs, is going to have to wait. This season he has his eyes on winning next month's European 200m title in Budapest.

That is something that looks like an increasing possibility if the run at Gateshead emphasised his en-

durance, his performance the previous day on his home track at Meadowbank indicated his outstanding natural speed.

Backed by a wind of 2.9 metres per second, which nullified his performance for record purposes, he crossed the line in 10.01sec, 0.01sec behind the 100m specialist Ian Mackie. Even adding 0.10sec to that time to nullify the wind advantage it was a hugely encouraging effort, 10.11sec being the Scottish national record held by the 1980 Olympic 200m champion Allan Wells.

Walker has a background in professional sprinting – he held six titles on grass over various distances in 1994. His biggest payday before the Gateshead race came when he won

\$4,000 as winner of the New Year Sprint at Meadowbank, recording 11.07sec off a 2.25m handicap – a time beaten only by the legendary Fowderrall sprinter George McNeil.

While Walker's immediate target is next weekend's AAA trials in Birmingham, where he seeks a 200m place at the European Championships, he will end the month by going back to his roots, as it were, running on grass in the Langham meeting in the Borders in a handicap race for a £250 first prize.

Money has been almost too tight to mention for Walker in recent years. Even last year, this graduate in estate management from Heriot-Watt University had to get by with a £2,000 Lottery grant. But his perfor-

mance at the World Championships, where he also reached the semi-finals in the individual 200m, put him in the UK Award Scheme, guaranteeing £1,050 per month.

"It's not a fortune, but I have paid my debts and given my folks something towards food and rent like I should have done years ago."

Walker's financial circumstances might have been very different had he chosen a another course five years ago. He might have become a rugby union player.

As a winger in the Scottish schools side of 1990-91 he played alongside current full Scottish international Craig Jones, Derek Lee and the British Lion Gregor Townsend. But Walker, who went on to play briefly for Heriot's FP before an incident in which he was stood on by a large prop forward – has mixed feelings over those days.

"Gregor was really gifted but he was a greedy bugger," Walker recalled. "He never passed to us." His decision to choose athletics over rugby came after growing disillusionment about the game. "I was busting a gut in games where many players were not as committed as I was," he said. "That was why I switched, and I have no regrets. There is more sense of purpose in athletics because you achieve through your own efforts. And far too many people are getting hot up about money in rugby."

That said, there was a small damper on Sunday night's occasion when someone mentioned Elliot Bunney, Walker's training partner and – as of recently – agent. "Now I have to give him his cut," said Walker with a rueful smile.

Still, there will be plenty more where that came from.

Jones proves the best of the best

MARION JONES capped an excellent evening of sprinting at the Goodwill Games on Sunday by beating the fastest women's 100 metres field ever assembled on the opening day of the 15-event competition.

For the first time, each of the eight starters had previously clocked under 11 seconds, with Jones second fastest on the all-time list followed by the Jamaican Merlene Ottey.

Jones showed no outward concern after her false start and went on to win in 10.90sec, her ninth straight win over 100m and her 19th at the 100m, 200m and long jump.

"It wasn't the best race," the American world champion said. "But I'm happy to come here today and win. The false start didn't really make a difference."

Ottey, who finished three-tenths of a second behind Jones, refused to concede the flame of women's sprinting had passed to a new generation. The 38-year-old Jamaican said she did not believe the American world champion was unbeatable.

"I believe I can beat her," Ottey said. "My motivation this year is to beat her."

Bryan Bronson, one of the handful of elite athletes who can stop Jones winning the Golden League million dollar jackpot this year, clocked the seventh fastest time in history with 47.15sec in the men's 400 hurdles and Ato Boldon won the men's 200m in 20.15 against a slight headwind.

Bronson, the American champion

who recorded the third fastest time ever at the US trials, said he thought he could better Kevin Young's six-year-old world record.

Boldon, who won the world title in Athens last year, meanwhile, extended his usual confidence as he set his sights on Michael Johnson's world record.

"Some people didn't think 19.32 would be run until 2020," he said. "Maybe we can prove the experts wrong."

Boldon said he had felt extra pressure to win on Sunday through the presence of a vocal section of New York's Caribbean population at the modest Mitchell Athletic Complex on Long Island.

For the basketball, a large and vocal Puerto Rican contingent at

Madison Square Garden cheered the defending champions to an 84-76 win over the United States after Puerto Rico had trailed by 19 points with 15 minutes to go.

Eddie Casiano, who confessed it had been the biggest mistake of his life to turn down a chance to play college basketball in the United States, scored 31 points for Puerto Rico.

"Once they started missing open shots, we just did what we had to do," he said.

In the gymnastics competition, Russia's world and European champion Svetlana Khorkina, who has been troubled by a sore back, fell during the floor exercise to lose her chance of taking the women's overall title.

Henman moves to his highest ranking

TENNIS
BY DERRICK WHITE

TIM HENMAN, without striding a ball in competition last week, has moved up one place to 11 in the latest world rankings announced yesterday – the highest placing of his career.

Henman's rise was due to fact that Felix Mantilla lost 65 points last week, allowing the British No 2, who has 2,088 ranking points, to move above the 23-year-old Spaniard.

Greg Rusedski, the British No 1 who is still bothered by the ankle injury he received at the Stella Artois tournament at Queen's Club, London, last

month, remains at six in the world rankings.

Like Henman, Rusedski, who has 2,706 points, is fortunate that he has no points to lose for the next four weeks. So the fact that he has withdrawn from the Washington and Los Angeles tournaments this week and next should not affect his ranking unless players immediately beneath him do exceptionally well.

The difficult time for Rusedski and Henman will come next month when they both have points to defend at the New Haven tournament and then the US Open.

Rusedski, in particular, could be in trouble if he is even slight-

ly bothered by his ankle problem at the US Open for he has 653 points to defend.

Chris Wilkinson, the British No 3 from Southampton who won the LTA Manchester Challenger yesterday, has moved from 149 to 135 in the world rankings. Wilkinson needed just over an hour to win the title for a second time in four years. He defeated Stefano Pescosolido, 6-3, 6-4, to earn 60 valuable ranking points.

The final had been held over from Sunday because of rain and a shower broke out shortly after Wilkinson wrapped up victory. The 28-year-old said: "I had one eye on the match and one eye on the weather. Had it



Henman: 11th in world

gone into a third set or even a tie-break in the second, we might have finished waiting round again. I felt more relaxed today and that certainly helped because this was my best performance of the tournament."

Wilkinson only needed to break Pescosolido's serve once in each set to win and leave the Italian as runner-up for the second year in a row.

Schofield's uncertain status

RUGBY LEAGUE

HUDDERSFIELD ARE denying they have sacked Garry Schofield as their coach. The former Great Britain international was relieved of his coaching duties at the McAlpine Stadium yesterday after the Giants, promoted to Super League last year, won just two of their first 13 games of the season.

Early reports stated that Schofield, eight months into a three-year contract, had been dismissed but Les Coulter, the club's chief executive, insisted otherwise.

"Garry has not been sacked," he said. "He's still a very important full-time member of the club."

"The Super League rules are clear – coaches must have

a Level III in coaching. Garry doesn't have it."

Schofield is being kept on as a player while his assistant, the former St Helens player, Phil Veevers, took charge of yesterday's training session.

Huddersfield are looking to appoint a new boss in time for Friday's Super League Roadshow fixture with Hull in Gateshead.

Andy Goodway, the England and Great Britain coach who is assistant to John Monie at Wigan, is believed to top Rusedski's wanted list, with Shaun McRae, whose contract at St Helens expires at the end of the season, also being linked with the post.

Schofield, who joined Huddersfield from Leeds in February 1995, is expected to place the matter in the hands

of his solicitor, but declined to comment yesterday.

The former Great Britain captain, who succeeded Steve Ferris last November, has played only infrequently this season, insisting he could not combine the two roles.

He is the first Super League coaching casualty of 1998 – a sharp contrast to last year when seven top-flight coaches were dismissed in the first three months of the season.

Coulter added: "Garry has had to contend with a horrendous injury list and we do not apportion any blame to him."

Away from the club scene Clive Griffiths has called on the game's bosses to arrange more international fixtures for his reformed Wales side.

Griffiths helped steer Wales to the semi-finals of the 1995

World Cup but they have not played since. There is talk of this autumn's triangular tournament featuring Ireland, Scotland and France being expanded into a full-blown Five Nations' Championship, something that cannot come soon enough for Griffiths.

"If you are serious about international rugby you've got to have regular matches," he said.

The Welsh manager, who watched his side lose 15-12 to England on Sunday, said that he has not been offered a coaching job with the proposed new Super League clubs Cardiff and Swansea, so he intends to stay in rugby union at London Welsh, who have won promotion to the Allied Dunbar Premiership Second Division, unless he receives an offer from a league club.

Busy Baister draws up plan of action

RUGBY UNION
By DAVID LLEWELLYN

HOWEVER CRAMMED Brian Baister's schedule before his election at the Rugby Football Union's annual meeting on Sunday, as chairman of the management board it will be nothing to what lies in store. The pace stepped up from busy to hectic as he fielded dozens of calls, as the world woke up to the fact that change was in the air at Twickenham following Cliff Brittle's defeat in the Birmingham vote.

Baister, a former deputy chief constable for Cheshire and now the European Security Adviser to ICI, intends keeping his job and has announced that he will be perfectly happy to delegate responsibility to the RFU's paid staff. Even so, he can expect to spend a fair amount of time out of his office as he tries to spread himself in his new role.

He remained in the north yesterday clearing up outstanding work. "I have spent today making arrangements to meet people and responding to the many approaches from the media," Baister said.

He was quickly into his stride, quashing rumours of the possibility of Cardiff and Swansea taking part in a "shadow" Allied Dunbar Premiership and playing English sides on free days. In a statement issued by Baister from Twickenham last night the new chairman said: "There has been increasing speculation regarding the possibility of Cardiff

and Swansea playing friendly fixtures against Allied Dunbar Premiership clubs this season. "The RFU can confirm that it will directly oppose any fixtures which affect and interrupt the Allied Dunbar league programme. The RFU fully expects to be in a position to approve fixture lists for all Allied Dunbar Premiership games this week and anticipates that this will be in line with the structured season agreed between the clubs and the RFU and implicit in the Mayfair agreement."

Even with that out of the way there are still a number of outstanding items from the previous regime, most pressing of which is the appointment of a chief executive.

"I intend spending the first week meeting company head-hunters regarding the new chief executive and meeting people to form the relationship which is so vital to the role of chairman," said the former detective chief superintendent of the Metropolitan Police. That begins tomorrow when he will enter Twickenham for the first time as chairman.

"I will be having one-to-one meetings with all the directors at Twickenham," Baister added. "And at lunchtime I will meet the entire staff. I think it is important to establish a relationship with the staff and paid executive, but it is equally crucial to delegate tasks to the specialists employed to deal with them. We have a fine team now and need to use them to best effect."

The pace hots up to frenetic on Thursday with the first of 11 Management Board meetings in his first year in office. He will also have to address seven plenary gatherings of the RFU council in the next 12 months.

Thursday's board meeting takes place at Twickenham and it does look as if Baister, who has a few degrees, is going to be given a relatively smooth start by his opponents. The RFU Reform Group (president: Fran Cotton), the backers of Brittle's campaign, issued a statement yesterday which promised hope for the immediate future. "We are disappointed that the clubs' favoured candidate (Brittle) has not been elected to the management board, but take heart that the council are listening and accepting some of the RFU Reform Group policies," said their chairman Martyn Thomas.



Baister: Hectic schedule

he said. "For the 1998-99 season it is impractical to consider the integration of the European Cup fixtures into what is now a crowded domestic programme. We must look to solving this before next season."

There is every chance that by the second management board meeting on 3 September the first steps will have been taken to put English rugby on the road to recovery.

Van Bon has final flourish before climb

CYCLING
By ROBIN NICHOLL
with the Tour de France

A BRILLIANT yellow carpet of sunflowers over the hills of old Gascony gave a fitting welcome to Laurent Desbiers on his first day in the yellow jersey of the Tour de France's leading rider. The temperature headed for 40C, but Desbiers stayed cool in mind at least as a breakaway in nine riders steamed away in an escape of 160km.

Today, however, the soft undulations give way to the craggy Pyrenees, where the giant Tourmalet mountain road rises to a height of 2,116 metres, a starting change from the 380m of yesterday's biggest hill.

"I am glad I kept the jersey for another day. On Tuesday, it will be over," Desbiers said, envisaging a difficult time from four mountains before the race reaches the spa town of Luchon.

Apart from the exacting terrain, the ambitions of the Tour favourite, Jan Ullrich, Spain's Abraham Olano and, notably, the Italian mountain specialist Marco Pantani will exact a heavy toll.

Yesterday the Dutchman Leon Van Bon provided the final sprinting flourish when, in the absence of most specialists, he outstripped Jens Voigt, Massimiliano Lelli and Christophe Agnolotto with his pace at the finish in Pau.

They were the remnants of a nine-strong offensive opened by Voigt, who took second place and moved into the red polka-dot jersey of best climber. Today he will be a hard to miss target.

Pantani has to clear a deficit of 8min 25sec. How many climbs he will need to give an indication of how close he is to his Giro d'Italia-winning form.

"I have not raced on a mountain since then, and from a tactical point I am sorry about the loss of Festina because their riders could have helped in attacking Ullrich," the shaven-headed Italian said.

Ullrich has only 321 to clear, Olano 5:33, and another threat, the world-ranked No 1 Laurent Jalabert of France, is just 4:45 from the jersey.

Yesterday's ninth stage was the last opportunity to take time bonuses, the deductions given for the 1-3-3 at intermediate sprints and finishes.

The leading sprinters bowed out quietly, with most finishing between six and 18 minutes behind Van Bon, and the double stage winner Mario Cipollini left

the race by car. He quit after complaining of stomach trouble which prevented him from eating or drinking.

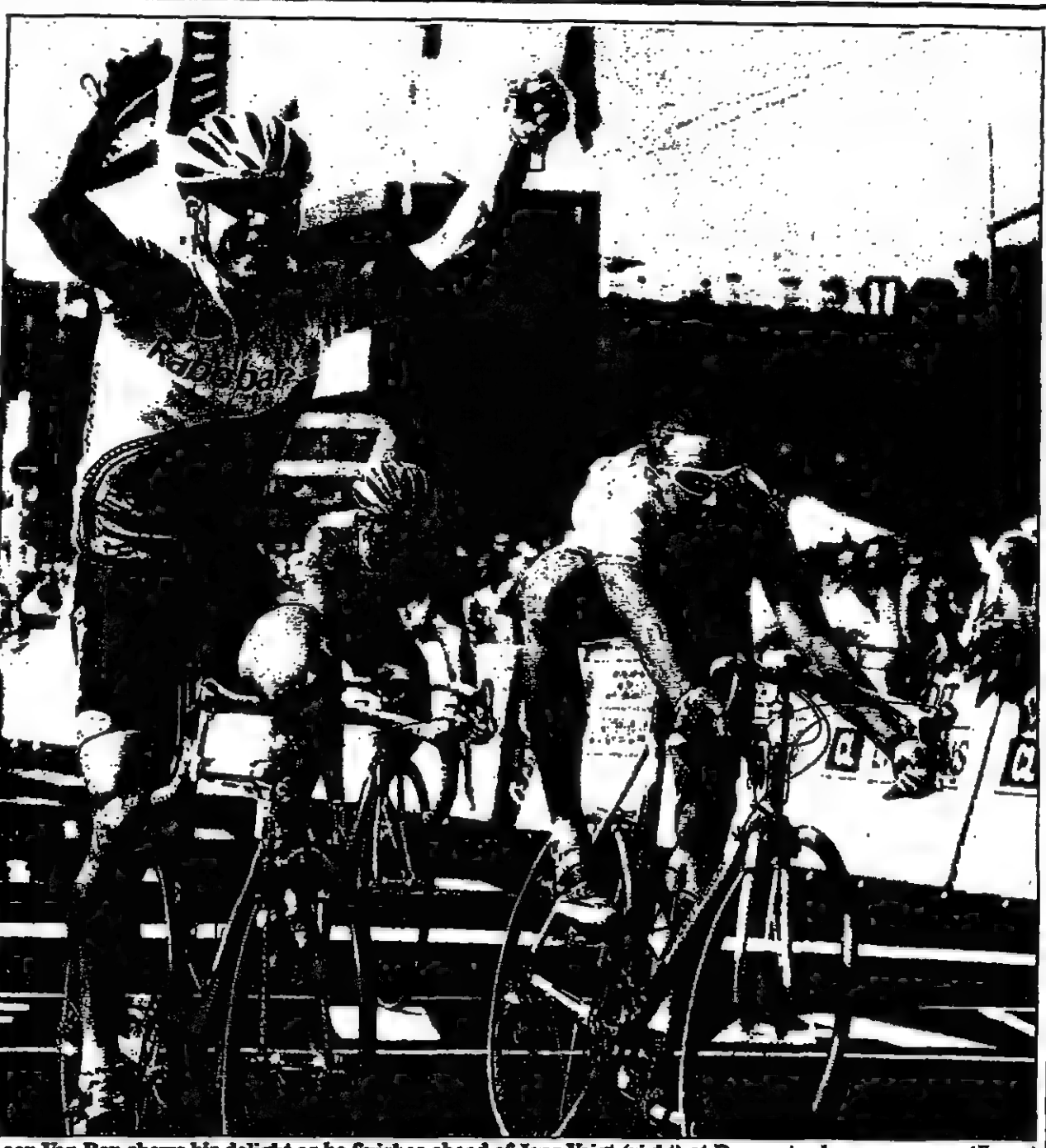
The American Tyler Hamilton also suffered in the heat, and slid from eighth overall to 160th. Struggling against sickness for five days, he lost contact with the main field in the last 40 km. The Tour is hard on the suffering.

The Festina affair has left its mark, but their sponsor's publicity wagons roll on. The messages of support for the riders were still as numerous, but in an area where many scrape a living from the land, there was an opportunity was not to be missed.

"Garlic and red wine for good health" was the roadside message. Elsewhere the banners read: "White garlic is the condiment of champions." The country folk of Beaumont did not look too bad on it.

Pau is bidding to be the starting point for a future Tour, having hosted 54 visits since the first in 1890, and its reputation in basketball and rugby union is renowned.

But as the gateway to the Pyrenees - where so many cycling reputations have been built and demolished - it may be too close to the mountains to have such an early part in the race.



Leon Van Bon shows his delight as he finishes ahead of Jens Voigt (right) at Pau yesterday

Foe fails medical to thwart United

FOOTBALL
By ALAN NIXON

MANCHESTER UNITED'S plans to sign the Cameroon international Maro Ikonen failed a major setback last night when he failed a medical.

Foe flew in from the French champions Lens to meet Alex Ferguson, the United manager, and hoped to tie up a £3m transfer. But the midfielder, who broke his leg before the World Cup finals, was given the news that he is not rated fit enough to join United.

Foe will now miss out on signing in time for the Champions' League qualifier next month and is unlikely to be registered in time for the vital group matches. Ferguson must now hope Ikonen's quick recovery may have to look elsewhere for a midfield player in a summer of transfer frustration.

An Old Trafford spokesman said last night: "Foe has been in today and met with our medical staff who assessed his development. He is still some considerable way from fitness and has returned home. He is due to come back in August. The signing depends on the progress he makes. He certainly would not be fit for the Champions' League qualifiers next month."

Jesper Blomqvist is expected to complete his transfer to United today. Blomqvist and his agent, Anders Wallsten, are arriving at Old Trafford to sort out the final details of the move from Italian club Parma.

Premiership referees are to crack down on diving and playing by the rules next season in a bid to eradicate the cheating that blighted the World Cup. The 18 officials met with Philip Don, the Premier League's recently appointed referees' officer, at Keele University in Staffordshire yesterday to ensure a coordinated line for next season.

As well as moving to ensure that holding, pulling, diving and feigning injury are wiped out of the Premiership, the officials will also take "strong action" to cut down the number of dangerous tackles.

Don said in a statement after the meeting: "We believe that clear action should be taken to stop the practices of holding, pulling, diving or the feigning of injury."

Prison threat to drug cheats

JAN ULLRICH, the Tour de France favourite, yesterday called for stiffer penalties against drug-taking in cycling. The French minister for sport picked up on the theme, calling for prison sentences of up to 14 years for those found dealing, writes Robin Nicholl.

"Sports people have become instruments of those with commercial aims who become overloaded with the obligation to produce results at any price," Marie-George Buffet said, announcing a draft bill of tougher measures for doping in sport.

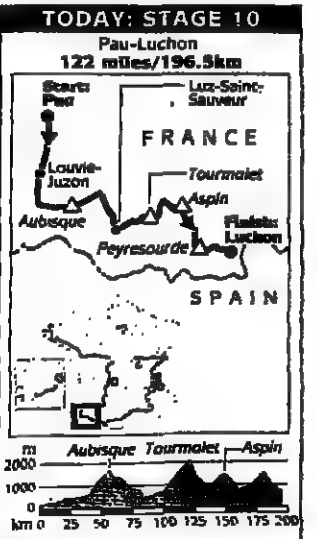
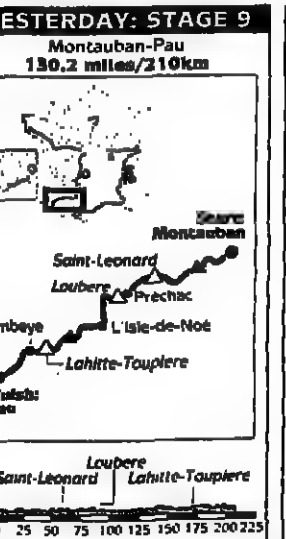
She wants to set up a special doping commission to tackle the problem and will seek heavier penalties against drug cheats in all levels of sport.

Ullrich, who won his first Tour last year, is worried about the future after the Festina team were kicked out of competition following the confession by Bruno Roussel, the team manager, that some members had taken banned substances.

Roussel and the team doctor, Eric Rictzen, have been charged with inciting the use of banned substances while the masseur, Willy Voet, faces a charge of smuggling.

"Any idea of allowing the free circulation of doping products is just totally crazy," Ullrich said. "Doping controls should be stepped up. It is the only way to stamp it out. I would never week my body for the sake of a race. I proved last year that there is not a need to take banned products."

"I would have liked to have won the Tour time-trial on Saturday in better circumstances but it was clouded by the Festina affair. I am sorry for them but when their team director admits the use of drugs, there is only one course."



Stars and Stripes sets new record

SAILING

THE AMERICA'S CUP competitor Stars and Stripes finished the Race to Mackinac in course-record time on Sunday, leading a field of 298 boats in the 333-mile catamaran, piloted by Steve Fossett, came in with a finishing time of 19hr 50min 33sec, beating the previous multi-hull course record of 29:35:22, also set by Stars and Stripes in 1996.

Stars and Stripes was also first across the line in the previous weekend's Port Huron to Mackinac yacht race. Three other boats in the race from Chicago to Mackinac Island had crossed the line by early yesterday morning, including two other multi-hull competitors - RX-Site and Eater Voyager. The site was Sayonara, the first mono-hull to finish.

ATHLETICS
The 2000 Asian championships will be held in Jakarta, Indonesia. It was announced yesterday that the event will be held as a back-up.

BASEBALL
Asger Madsen, the England coach, has announced his resignation and is to take up a new post with the German badminton federation.

BASEBALL
The American League's Detroit Tigers have signed a three-year contract extension.

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TODAY'S NUMBER
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The world ranking that golfer Mark O'Meara now occupies, following his win in the Open. The new position is a rise of eight places and O'Meara's highest ever ranking.

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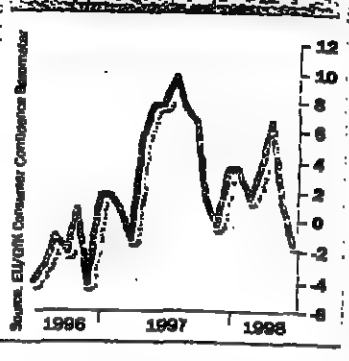
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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY JULY 21 1998

Consumer confidence barometer takes a dive



BY JANET BUSH
AND MARIANNE CURPHEY

CONSUMER confidence has plunged to its lowest level since Labour came to power, while business leaders are at their most pessimistic since December 1996, according to two gloomy surveys.

The surveys add to the picture of increasing economic uncertainty contained in yesterday's figures, which showed that house prices fell for the second month running as interest rate fears took hold.

Consumers are worried about the

possibility of recession and fearful for their jobs, according to the July Consumer Confidence Barometer, published by GfK for the European Commission. Unemployment was the main fear, with 38 per cent of respondents believing that jobless figures would rise, double the level of a year ago.

GfK's overall confidence barometer has fallen to its lowest level since last April, adding to the sharp drop in confidence in June, the month when the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee shocked the country by raising base rates. GfK

said that public confidence in the economy was "dwindling rapidly".

The Institute of Management reports today that managers are feeling less secure about their jobs amid reports of a tail-off of activity in their firms over the past quarter.

The latest survey suggests that inflationary pressures may ease slightly. Of those surveyed, 20 per cent said they intend to increase prices, but 66 per cent said prices will stay the same and 6 per cent plan to cut prices.

Mary Chapman, the Institute of Management's Director-General,

said: "There are clear signs of a downturn in business activity as the measures taken to cool the economy begin to bite. Business leaders fear this cooling may be the first signal of recession."

Despite the gloom Alistair Darling, chief secretary to the Treasury, said that the extra £40 billion of cash promised for education and health can still be found even if the pessimistic conclusions of a report published over the weekend by independent economists prove to be true.

Mr Darling told the Commons

Treasury Select Committee that the forecasts by Ernst and Young's Item Club of analysts were only the third most pessimistic he had seen. Even on the most pessimistic, the Government could fund its commitments without extra taxes.

Thousands of managers at Ford are to lose their jobs as the company, which employs 30,000 people in the UK, looks at a 10 per cent reduction in senior managers worldwide in a drive to improve its competitiveness. There could be more than 1,000 redundancies in the United Kingdom.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET			
FTSE 100	6173.0	(+5.0)	
FTSE All share	2595.17	(+2.44)	
Nikkei	Closed		
New York			
Dow Jones	9332.05	(+5.92)	
S&P Composite	1180.82	(+2.87)	

US RATE			
Federal Funds	5.50%	(7.00%)	
Long Bond	10.25%	(10.5%)	
Yield	6.72%	(6.75%)	

LONDON MONEY			
3-mth Interbank	7.75%	(7.75%)	
Life long gilt			
future (Sep)	106.46	(106.62)	

STERLING			
New York			
\$	1.6478	(unq)	
London			
£	1.6481	(1.6408)	
DM	2.3312	(2.3338)	
FF	6.8212	(6.8333)	
SFr	2.4783	(2.4738)	
Yen	228.10	(228.03)	
£ Index	104.7	(104.6)	

DOLLAR			
London			
£	1.7765	(unq)	
DM	5.6889	(unq)	
FF	1.5039	(unq)	
SFr	1.3850	(unq)	
Yen	112.2	(112.2)	

Tokyo close Yen Closed			
Brent 15-day (Oct)	\$13.10	(\$13.25)	

LONDON close			
London close	604.78	(604.00)	

* denotes midday trading price

Airlines subsidy dispute reignites in Europe

BY CHARLES BREMNER AND CARL MORTISHED

THE European Commission is set to use a legal manoeuvre to restore the entire £2 billion of French state aid to Air France that was annulled last month by the Court of Justice in a case brought by British Airways and several other airlines.

The move was taking place as RJB Mining, the group that bought most of the privatised pits in England and Wales, launched a legal action against the Commission over subsidies to RJB's European rivals.

Neil Kinnock, the Transport Commissioner, will tomorrow seek endorsement from the full Commission for a plan that will simply renege on the 1994 aid package by rewriting contested paragraphs in its original approval of the subsidy.

"We have re-argued the case and made it watertight," said an official. No new approval would be needed from the court or any other authority, she added. The move could be challenged in the court by a third party, but this would take years.

Sir Leon Brittan, the senior British Commissioner, and a handful of his 19 colleagues are expected to resist the move, but they are likely to be overruled by the Commission majority which is keen to lay the politically explosive case to rest.

The decision will anger rival privately owned airlines, including British Airways, which are furious at the level of state subsidies for competing airlines. It will also reopen the argument over subsidies in a number of other industries, including coal. RJB Mining said yesterday that it was taking the Commission to court over the huge subsidies granted to the German and Spanish coal industry.

RJB, which wants to sell coal in Germany, is asking the Court of First Instance in Luxembourg to annul two decisions made in June, including retrospective approval for a DM9 billion (£3 billion) sub-



Richard Budge is launching a court case against the European Commission over its approval of subsidies for RJB Mining's less efficient rivals abroad

Stock Exchange to look at 7.30 start

BY RICHARD MILES

THE London Stock Exchange said yesterday it would eventually have to consider opening the market at 7.30am in the light of its landmark alliance with Deutsche Börse, its former rival in Frankfurt.

Its comments came as the start of London trading was pushed back by 30 minutes to 9am in an attempt to put an end to the "rogue share prices" which have surfaced as a result of the introduction of an order-driven trading system last autumn.

Private client brokers lobbied for a later market opening after some of their customers complained of losses due to abnormal spreads on stocks when they dealt through SETS, the

Pepsico pays £2bn cash for Tropicana

FROM ANDREW BUTCHER IN NEW YORK

TROPICANA, the world's biggest fruit juice company, was bought yesterday for \$3.3 billion (£2 billion) by PepsiCo as the soft drink giant opened a new front in its battle with Coca-Cola.

Tropicana, which dominates the British fruit juice market through its Capella Fruit Juices subsidiary, was bought from Seagram for cash, which will help fund Seagram's \$10.4 billion purchase of the Polygram record label from Philips.

The sale of Tropicana, for which Seagram paid \$1.2 billion in 1988, means Seagram's major income will now come from its entertainment division. Edgar Bronfman, chief executive of Seagram, said: "This disposition

Bid target speculation lifts Selfridges

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

SELFRIDGES, the department store company that was yesterday spun off from the struggling Sears group, began its independent life with a stock market value of just over £360 million.

Its shares opened at 229p and ended the day at 236½p.

buoyed by speculation that Selfridges could become a bid target.

The shares were also supported by a buoyant trading statement from its rival Debenhams, the department store business that was demerged from the old Burton Group at the beginning of this year. Debenhams lifted

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Shire tightens grip thanks to progress of Alzheimer's drug

By PAUL DURMAN

SHIRE Pharmaceuticals consolidated its position as Britain's largest emerging drug company yesterday, when its shares rose a further 11 per cent because of the promise of its treatment for Alzheimer's disease.

Shire's shares rose 53p to 540p, giving the company a market value of more than £750 million. This is substantially more than the longer-established Medeva and more than twice as big as Celltech

and Chiroscience, the biggest of the biotechnology companies. Shire is also bigger than Northern Ireland's Galen Holdings, although Galen's shares are suspended while it concludes a £1.5 billion merger with Ferring Pharmaceuticals, the European company.

Investors and analysts were excited by encouraging news from phase III trials of galantamine, the Alzheimer's disease drug, that were re-

leased at an Amsterdam conference at the weekend.

Results suggest that the drug, which Shire is developing with the Janssen Research arm of Johnson & Johnson, can significantly improve the memory and learning ability of Alzheimer's sufferers.

Moreover, the data suggests that galantamine may be better than existing treatments because, in addition to inhibiting the enzyme believed to be responsible for Alzheimer's, it also stimulates the production of an important chemical messenger. This effect on the brain's nicotinic receptors may be why smokers seem to be less prone to Alzheimer's. Janssen is continuing investigations into these "intriguing" observations.

Janssen is expected to launch galantamine under the name Reminyl in 2000. Robin Gilbert, analyst at Panmure Gordon, said that the effect on the nicotinic receptors may give the drug an advantage over rivals. Shire will market Reminyl in the UK and Ireland.

Supportive findings of galantamine trials in Canada, France, Germany, Finland, Norway, The Netherlands, Sweden and the UK will be presented at the conference on Thursday.

Times, page 26

Deutsche confirms latest departure

By RICHARD MILES, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

DEUTSCHE BANK yesterday confirmed the resignation of Rory MacNamara after 17 years with the investment banking division in London.

The departure of Mr MacNamara, described as the only remaining big hitter in the corporate finance division, is the latest in a string of high-profile defections from Deutsche. This month it lost its 70-strong technology team, based in California, to Credit Suisse First Boston which is be-

lieved to have offered \$1 billion in three-year guaranteed pay packages.

Dietrich Becker, head of the industrial team, went to Morgan Stanley, and Maurice Thompson and Carter McClelland, joint investment-banking heads, reportedly quit because of rows with Frankfurt.

The departures have been blamed on a reorganisation to broaden the role of investment bankers from advising clients to selling products. Comment, page 25



Karl Chapman of Spring, which has bought the Elizabeth Hunt agency for £14 million

Spring's sixth buy this year

By RACHEL BRIDGE

SPRING GROUP, the career and workforce management company, chalked up its sixth acquisition of the year yesterday with the purchase of Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants for £14.1 million.

The deal makes Spring one of the UK's biggest providers of temporary teachers.

Karl Chapman, chief executive of Spring, which recently changed its name from CRT

Group, said: "There is a current shortage of teachers in the UK which is likely to get worse rather than better and we believe the market will grow. Over the next ten years we will have the same number of pupils in schools, and sadly there are more teachers leaving the profession than are joining at the front end."

Elizabeth Hunt operates

from three locations in London, one in Birmingham and one in Australia. It employs about 75 people. In the year to March it made pre-tax profits of £1.3 million on sales of £15.1 million.

As a result of the acquisition exceptional costs of about £450,000 will be charged against Spring's profits in the current year. Its shares were unchanged at 404½p.

BA £100m computer deal won by EDS

EDS, the Texas-based computer consultancy, has won a ten-year, £100 million deal to run the information technology systems of British Airways' engineering operation (Jason Nisse writes).

The deal means EDS will initially take control of BA's Year 2000 compliance and then develop new, enhanced IT systems.

The move is the latest of a series of contracts won by EDS, which has taken advantage of the trend towards outsourcing to grow its business in the UK, particularly in the public sector.

EDS now claims around £1 billion a year of sales, half of which is to government organisations.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Rate	Bank Rate
Australia \$	2.71	2.64
Austria Sch	21.82	19.97
Belgium F	23.65	24.84
Canada C	2.575	2.368
Cyprus Cyp	0.908	0.853
Denmark Kr	11.78	10.67
Egypt Pound	8.89	8.24
Finland Mk	9.46	6.71
France F	10.29	9.21
Germany Dm	5.08	2.25
Greece Dr	512	475
Hong Kong \$	12.80	12.46
Iceland	129	109
Ireland P	1.22	1.13
Israel Sh	6.20	5.72
Italy Lit	3067	2820
Japan Yen	243.45	225.92
Malta	0.477	0.416
Netherlands Gld	3.486	3.201
New Zealand \$	3.26	3.02
Norway Kr	12.86	12.04
Portugal Esc	912.47	280.44
S Africa Rd	11.01	10.05
Spain Ptas	200.30	241.51
Sweden Kr	13.80	12.70
Switzerland F	2.55	2.41
Turkey Lira	455726	425561
USA \$	1.785	1.612

Rates for small denomination notes only as supplied by Barclays. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

AngloGold benefits from drop in rand

PROFITS at AngloGold surged 42 per cent to rand 621.5 million (£99 million) for the half-year to June 30. The South African mining group, which was recently formed out of the gold assets of Anglo American Corporation, is benefiting from lower costs due to the collapse of the South African rand.

Bobby Godsell, AngloGold's chairman, said that gold prices in rand terms are likely to be higher. "AngloGold will benefit from the gearing effect of rand-denominated costs and dollar-denominated revenues." The rand has fallen by a third against the dollar this year. AngloGold's cash costs fell 15 per cent over the period to \$247 per ounce of gold produced while gold revenue increased 3 per cent to \$359 per ounce. The company said it would continue to sharpen its mining focus with programmes aimed at mining safely and profitably at depths of 4,000 metres. The company said it continued to look for acquisitions and partnerships worldwide.

Innovative in Boots deal

SHARES in Innovative Technologies, which peaked at 361½p last year, recovered 20p to 119½p yesterday when the woundcare company announced a distribution deal with Boots. Innovative, which had a public row with its founder earlier this year, will supply Boots with a range of four woundcare products, intended to deal with a variety of cuts and grazes. They will be branded "Advanced Healing". The company's films and dressings allow wounds to heal in a moist environment and reduce the risk of scarring.

McDonald's advances

MCDONALD'S, the fast food company, reported an increase in operating profits in the second quarter despite weak economies in some international markets and intense competition in the US. But the company said it did not expect to sustain its current level of profitability. McDonald's said second-quarter profits rose to \$468.8 million (£284 million) from \$438.2 million on revenues that rose to \$3.18 billion from \$2.83 billion. Profits were struck before an exceptional charge of \$350 million against productivity initiatives.

Payoffs at Marston's

MARSTON'S, the Midlands brewer and pub operator, paid £538,000 in compensation to three former directors as a result of a boardroom shake-up aimed at reviving its flagging fortunes. According to its latest annual report, David Gordon, who resigned as managing director in February, was given a £184,000 payoff. Tony Marston, who resigned as head of John Marston's Taverners, received £171,000, and Ian Brown, former finance director, received a package worth £183,000, including a contribution to his pension fund.

Gowrings expands

GOWRINGS, the Burger King franchisor and motor dealer, has bought seven more of the restaurants for £2.6 million and signed up for a further 21. Apart from the seven new Midlands sites, the company has also agreed a four-year business lease on a restaurant in West Bromwich. It now owns or manages 31 Burger Kings in the South, South West and Midlands. In March it reported pre-tax profits of £1.4 million, almost double the previous year's £718,000. The shares yesterday closed up 1p at 120½p.

Beales agrees £11m bid

BEALES HUNTER, the refrigeration equipment company, looks set to fall to a takeover after its directors yesterday recommended the £11.3 million bid made by Stadium, the plastics group. Beales said that in the absence of any higher offer, shareholders should accept the Stadium bid, which was made earlier this month. Beales said it could have a satisfactory future as an independent company, but shareholders with more than 53 per cent of the company's equity had voted in favour of the takeover.

Passengers up at BRAL

BRITISH REGIONAL AIR LINES, the recently floated airline, enjoyed an 11.7 per cent rise in passenger numbers in the six months to June 30 but suffered a fall in the average occupancy of its flights from 62.8 per cent to 61.3 per cent. BRAL said: "These figures show a continuing steady growth in passenger numbers, largely as a result of new routes." The group said it is ahead of budget for the five months to May 31, but because its performance is biased to the second half, directors reiterated their prospectus warning that they expect a first-half loss.

Ocean to reorganise

OCEAN, the transport group that reports results next week, said yesterday it is to centralise its logistics business under the name MSAS Global Logistics. John Allan, the chief executive, said: "Multinational customers increasingly wish to deal with a single, seamless organisation offering a broad range of services covering their entire supply chain." Ocean's marine and environmental businesses are not affected by the organisational changes. The shares remained unchanged at 747½p yesterday.



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Subsidising Mad Hatter's tea party



COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

Question: when is an illegal subsidy not an illegal subsidy? Answer: when the European Commission chooses to call it something else, of course.

Alice took lessons in such logic when she ventured through the Looking Glass, but similar courses are available to ordinary folk who care to visit Brussels. If the advance intelligence is to be believed, the European Commission is about to produce a textbook case of how black is only black if it is labelled by the appropriate bureaucrats.

In June the European Court of Justice very reasonably concluded that a £2 billion government subsidy for Air France was in breach of the rules outlawing the unfair distortion of competition within the single market. It took the legal wheels four years to turn out that particular welcome conclusion, but that is a different aspect of Europe which, no doubt, the Red Queen could explain as a special kind of justice.

But the decision which took so long to be arrived at is now destined to be rendered irrelevant. It seems that the Commission is simply going to agree to rewrite the terms of the original approval that it gave to the deal. With one wave of his magic wand, Neil Kinnock, the Transport Commissioner, will turn an illegal subsidy into a legal one. Just think what might have happened to his political

career had he been able to wield such power.

In truth, even the most optimistic advocates of real competition in what was supposed to be a common market did not expect Air France to have to conjure up the cash that it had used to shore up its operations. The impracticality of such a demand should not, however, be allowed to justify the rewriting of history, nor the official condoning of something which was clearly anti-competitive.

For Bob Ayling and his team at British Airways, who had stuck with the grueling legal challenge to the subsidy, the latest twist piles insult upon the agony that has been occasioned by the Commission's long, drawn out deliberations over BA's planned link with American Airlines.

Whatever the Brussels rhetoric, Britain has espoused the idea of fair competition more wholeheartedly than many of our fellow European states. Just as BA was set free to fly in the private sector, so our coal industry has had to cope with diminishing public support. Richard Budge, like Bob Ayling, is heading for the European Court more to make his protest on a matter of principle than in the belief that he can

achieve fair play and ensure that European competitors are not being handed unfair advantage by their government's old-fashioned ways.

But this is not a battle that should be left to individual companies to fight. The Government needs to get nasty about the schizophrenic tendencies which allow Brussels to demand competitiveness from commerce while simultaneously condoning state aid on a huge scale.

Great escape from Deutsche Bank

Much of the musing about the comings and goings at Deutsche Bank's investment banking division has focused on the clear desire of Frankfurt to assume control over London. True, the day-to-day running of the business now rests in the hands of a member of the bank's all-power-

ful Vorstand. But to put much emphasis on this is to misunderstand the true nature of change under way at what was once one of the City's most prestigious houses.

Deutsche is seeking to do more than assert its authority over its acquisition: it is aiming to transform the business from one built around long-term relationships with clients — the heart and soul of the former Morgan Grenfell — to an enterprise which exploits its parent's colossal balance sheet of \$582 billion. In short, Germany's biggest bank is looking to turn an old-fashioned corporate finance house into a bulge-bracket investment bank.

Many top executives saw the writing on the wall long before the official restructuring was announced in April. Some of the wisest financiers quit to join banks which continue to concentrate on relationship banking, an approach which has paid dividends for the likes of Lazards and Schroders.

Others have waited as the situation has become increasingly intolerable and their positions effectively nullified. So it was with Rory MacNamara, a man of undisputed talents but not the right ones for the new bank that is under construction. Hence his departure, formally confirmed yesterday.

Deutsche is not the only European bank striving to achieve this transformation. Both ING Barings and Dresdner Kleinwort Benson are attempting to pull off the same trick, and with the same result: their finest corporate financiers leave in droves, creating rich pickings for the established American bulge-bracket players. These are tough competitors to take on and the success of the new combatants is far from guaranteed.

Somewhat belatedly, Deutsche has woken up to the fact that its strategy can only be achieved by building a considerable presence in the US — the very realisation

that led Barclays chief executive Martin Taylor to dispose of BZW and his global investment bank ambitions. So far, only SBC Warburg has managed to gain a sizeable foothold on the other side of the Atlantic through the acquisition of Dillon Read. Good Europeans should wish Deutsche every success, but don't expect the City to get too excited.

Strong competition in soft drinks

It may not be the real thing but the fizziest flavour in the soft drinks market comes without the benefit of carbonates. It is what used to be known as orange juice. Tropicana is pasteurised orange juice, packaged so cleverly that teenagers who would not normally be seen sipping a fruit juice ask for Tropicana by name and part with a premium price for the product. The actual brand was valued at \$3.3 billion (£1.88 billion) when PepsiCo bought it from Seagram yesterday.

The deal surprised the market, which thought Seagram was going to float Tropicana to help it to pay for Polygram. But PepsiCo is buying into a trend which is

revolutionising the soft drinks industry. Just as Perrier led many people to switch from cola to mineral water in the 1980s, Tropicana has repositioned orange juice as a "healthy" alternative to Coca-Cola or Tangelo.

This year's most successful UK supermarket launch has been Sunny Delight, a sugared fruit drink made by Procter & Gamble, which looks just like orange juice and is packaged accordingly. Some marketers predict that it could soon achieve annual sales of £400 million — more than even Coca-Cola.

The soft drinks market is fragmenting. The success of isotonic drinks has already put some pressure on colas; the orange juice revolution could bring even more problems. While Coke and Pepsi may suffer, the ones who really should worry are the weaker cola brands, such as Virgin.

Urge to splurge

OLD-STYLE venture capitalists learned the art of restraint. New-style private equity funds look more impatient to part with their cash. Doughty Hanson had no difficulty raising \$2.5 billion (£1.5 billion) but is in danger of appearing desperate to find a home for it. Having failed in recent efforts to buy Rolls-Royce cars, it is now negotiating to spend £500 million on the aerospace interests of BTR. The urge to splurge can be expensive.

SunTrust-Crestar become tenth largest US bank

FROM ANDREW BUTCHER IN NEW YORK

MERGER fever in America's financial sector continued yesterday with the formation of the nation's tenth biggest bank when SunTrust Banks bought Crestar Financial Corporation for \$9.5 billion (£5.75 billion).

The combined banks will boast 1,093 branches along the US east coast and assets exceeding \$88 billion when the deal is completed next month.

Atlanta-based SunTrust, presently the 18th biggest bank in the US, paid a 31 per cent premium to last Friday's market price for Crestar shares. SunTrust will pay the equivalent of \$33.94 in its own shares for every Crestar share.

Crestar is one of the leading banks in Virginia, Maryland and Washington, DC, an area with the fourth largest population in the country. SunTrust is strong in Florida, Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee. The deal sent Crestar shares

soaring 14 per cent, but knocked SunTrust's value down almost 10 per cent, despite many analysts praising the purchase. Harold Schroeder, a banking analyst with Keefe, Bruyette and Woods, the broker, said: "SunTrust had to have a presence in the region where Crestar operated if it was going to be a serious competitor on the US east coast."

However Nancy Bush, of Ryan, Beck and Co, said SunTrust still had a major hole in the east coast because it was absent from North and South Carolina. Two of America's biggest banks, First Union and NationsBank, dominate in the Carolinas.

Both groups have made multi-billion dollar purchases in south-eastern America in the past year. Regional banks across the US have been buying competitors or neigh-

bouring banks to cut costs and expand into new areas. SunTrust and Crestar have no overlap in their branch network, so the deal should mean few job losses and closures.

Phillip Humann, chairman of SunTrust, said the merger would slice \$250 million off earnings this year, but would save \$130 million a year from 2000. He said 1999 profits would rise 3.6 per cent because of the deal.

The SunTrust purchase of Crestar will complete a shake-out of Virginia's three major banks in the past year. Signet Banking Corporation was bought by First Union and Central Fidelity Banks was snared by Wachovia Corporation. Massive financial mergers have occurred almost weekly in the US recently, climaxing in April with the \$75 billion merger of Travelers Group and Citicorp.



Wessex Water's Nicholas Hood, chairman, left, and Colin Skelton, chief executive, saw the shares rise on yesterday's news

UK Waste option boosts Wessex Water

BY TIMON DAY

SHARES in Wessex Water rose 12½p to 498½p after the water company issued a default notice yesterday entitling it to proceed with the purchase of the 50 per cent of UK Waste, the leading waste and recycling company, it does not already own at a "fair value".

The default notice was triggered by the change of ownership of Waste Management Inc, the original American partner which merged with US Waste Services Inc last week.

A Wessex spokesman said: "This is a change of control clause allowing us to take control of UK Waste if we want to. But we will sit down with US Waste Services in the next few months to see if we can reach agreement on the running of the company. If we cannot then we will buy up the remaining shares."

Analysts reckon Wessex would have to pay between £150 million and £220 million for the other half of UK Waste. The price would be decided by merchant bankers employed by each party, and if they could not agree by an independent banker.

UK Waste's profits fell 10 per cent last year because of a sharp fall in waste paper prices and a management vacuum reflecting problems at Waste Management Inc.

Wessex has made no secret of its desire to take control of UK Waste, which was formed in February 1991. The company feels it now understands how to manage this operation, although it would have to hire several top executives to restart the acquisition programme.

Waste Management looked set to take control of UK Waste and possibly Wessex at one stage. It lifted its stake in Wessex from 14.9 per cent to 20 per cent through a rights issue in early 1993, but it sold its shares back to Wessex in the buyback of February 1997.

The company also announced that Ofwat, the industry regulator, would provide appropriate incentives for companies to improve efficiency and service to customers. This means that companies that are more efficient and have higher standards would not suffer as tight a set of price controls in the forthcoming review compared with less efficient companies.

Card Clear buys forex companies

BY RICHARD MILES

CARD CLEAR, the AIM-listed company which provides fraud prevention and card payment services, has taken majority stakes in two foreign exchange businesses. It has acquired 85 per cent of Master Change and 100 per cent of Retail Markets. It has acquired the stakes by converting £1.05 million in loans and bank guarantees granted when the companies were founded in 1996. The remaining 15 per cent in Master Change is owned by its management, but Card Clear has the option of buying them out. Both deals are expected to be completed on August 3.

Nigel Whitaker, chairman of Card Clear, said: "The additions fit extremely well with Card Clear's strategy of developing an expanding international and financial services group."

Scottish Media likely to sell 20% stake in GMTV

BY RAYMOND SNOODY, MEDIA EDITOR

SCOTTISH MEDIA GROUP is likely to sell its 20 per cent stake in GMTV, the loss-making breakfast TV station, later this year to help fund new acquisitions in England.

Scottish will take its decision after the Independent Television Commission decides the terms on which GMTV will be allowed to renew its licence. The station is paying about £50 million a year in special taxes and is expected to have pre-tax losses of around £12 million on a turnover of about £80 million.

GMTV has said it hopes the ITC, which it expected to make its position clear in September, will reduce its special taxes to "single figures". A considerable reduction is certainly likely.

Scottish has little interest in holding on to a 20 per cent stake which has done nothing since the company was founded in 1990. It wants to make wholly-owned investments. Carlton and Granada also have 20 per cent stakes in

GMTV. Disney has 25 per cent and the Guardian Media Group 15 per cent.

Scottish Media Group, based in Glasgow, owns Scottish Television, Grampian and The Herald newspaper, and is pursuing expansion south of the border because it is unlikely to be allowed to expand much further in the Scottish media. An attempt to acquire Ulster Television was

blocked by shareholders and CanWest, the Canadian-based international broadcaster.

Executives, led by Gus McDonald, the chairman, are starting to look at everything from commercial radio and magazines to newspapers and intellectual property rights. The company has no debt and could easily raise £250 million to £300 million for the right opportunity at the right price.



Gus McDonald: pursuing diversification in England

PIC plans California relocation

BY CARL MORTIMER

PIC INTERNATIONAL, the pig breeding company that has emerged as the successor of the slimmed-down Dalgety, is to move its head office to California, cutting up to 40 jobs in the UK.

Sir Denis Henderson and Ken Hanna, chairman and chief executive respectively, are stepping down. The chairman's slot will be filled by Brian Baldock, a non-executive director, while Phil David, currently chief executive of PIC, will step into Mr Hanna's shoes.

PIC said it would retain a skeleton staff in Britain but explained that California was the ideal location to attract high-quality scientists for its headquarters and research centre. PIC said it would seek a US listing alongside the UK quote.

Dalgety has repaid some £675 million to shareholders after the break-up of the company and disposal of its component parts.

Booker overseas food interests sold for £72.5m

BY MATTHEW BARBOUR

SHARES in Booker rose 4 per cent yesterday after the troubled food production and distribution group announced the sale of its Portuguese and Polish food interests for £72.5 million.

The sale comes a month after Jonathan Taylor, chief executive, said the group had decided on a complete break-up to revive the shares.

The group has sold its 40 per cent interest in Recheio Distribuidora and its direct 16.7 per cent stake in Eurocash Holdings to Lisbon-listed Jeronimo Martins, which already has management control of the joint venture. Booker said it will use the proceeds to reduce year-end debts of £300 million.

Last month shares in the company dropped 15 per cent after the company issued its third profits warning since January and placed three of its five divisions on the block.

Booker is also in talks to sell its 64 per cent stake in the copyright to Agatha Christie's works, although it insists it will continue to sponsor the Booker Prize. Analysts had speculated that a break-up would precipitate a bid for the entire group, but so far this has not materialised.

Mr Taylor said his intention is to concentrate Booker on its cash-and-carry business. Two years ago the company paid £267 million for Nurdin & Peacock, its main rival, but there have been big problems integrating the two businesses, hitting cash flow and profits hard.

Full-profit forecasts have been cut to between £80 million and £85 million from above £100 million before Booker announced an 18 per cent fall in pre-tax profits in March and a strategic review. Shares in Booker yesterday closed up 9p at 230 1/2p.

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ECONOMIC VIEW

ANATOLE KALETSKY

Words will be the winners in the Internet gold rush

High-tech share prices do not reflect economic realities of the digital revolution

Last week, as the Nasdaq index of Wall Street high technology shares broke through the 2,000 level, presumably on its way to 10,000, as Dell Computer became more valuable than General Motors, and as Yahoo!, an Internet listings service with a three-year history and no profits, became more valuable than *The New York Times*, I happened to be in the right place at the right time.

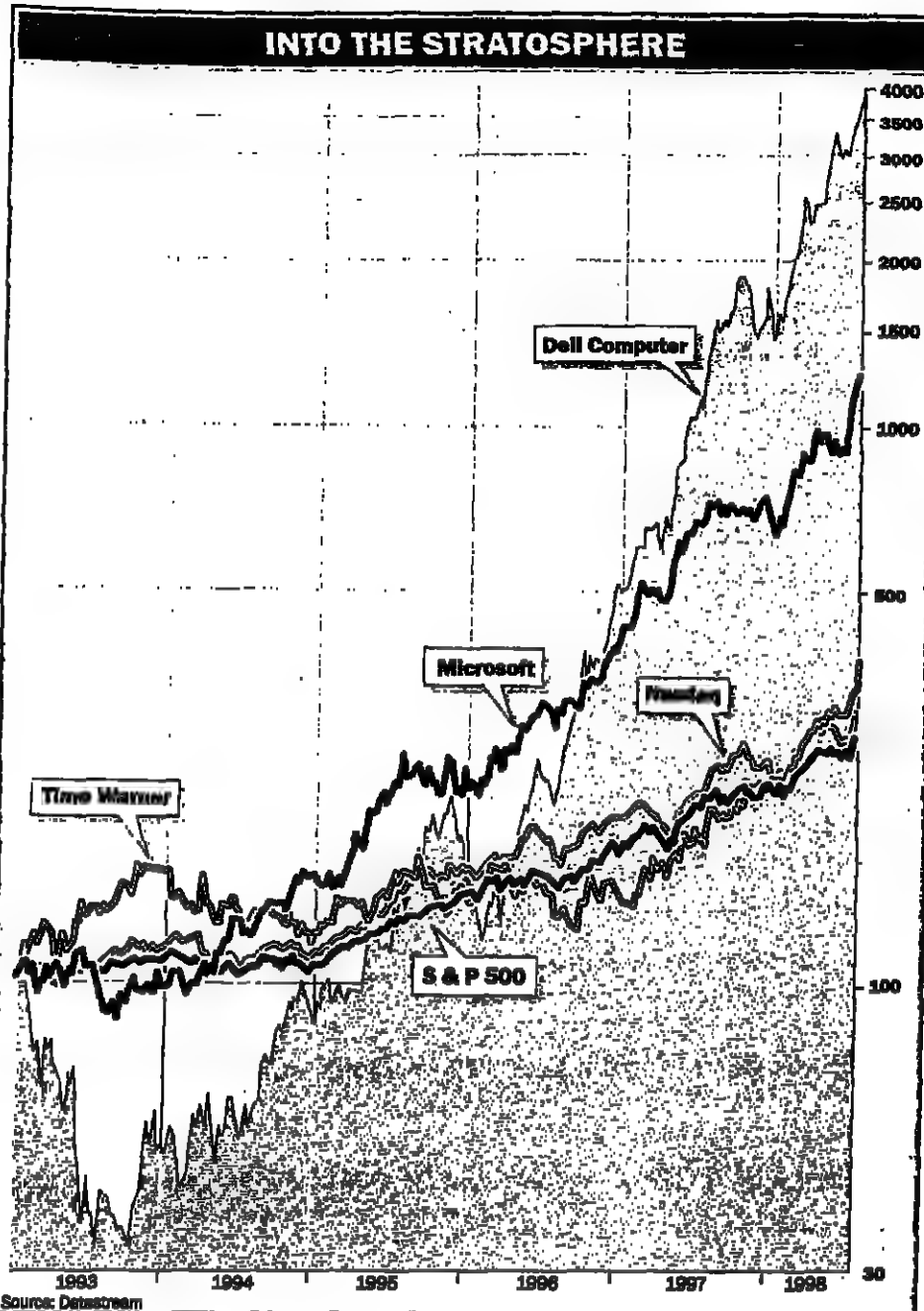
I was at a conference of media and communications executives in America discussing the digital future. It seemed a perfect opportunity to reflect again on a theme that this page has discussed every few months: the interaction between US economic prosperity, Wall Street's financial euphoria and Americans' love affair with computers, the Internet and communications technologies of all kinds.

This time, however, I want to move beyond the macro-economic perspectives that have dominated past columns. Partly this is because I have nothing much to add on the macroeconomic front. My view on the macro-issues, for what it is worth, is still the same as it has been since early 1995. The US economy is unlikely to suffer a recession until the next decade, even if the stock market bubble bursts. Wall Street will probably rise even further before the long-awaited correction of 30 per cent plus.

However, when it comes to the microeconomic and investment issues relating to new technology, conventional wisdom seems wildly over-optimistic. The US technology gold rush is real enough, with vast wealth being created and much more waiting to be unearthed. The question, however, is which companies and industries will discover the motherlodes of true value and which will come back with fool's gold.

Judging by the behaviour of the US stock market and the views of industry analysts, conventional wisdom seems wrong on several counts. First, this is not a technological revolution. It is really a revolution in marketing. The greatest rewards have not gone, and will not go, for technical innovation, but for consumer recognition and market power. This is evidenced in the triumph of such technologically uncreative companies as Microsoft and Dell. The market is also wrong to assume that the businesses that struck lucky in the first phase of the gold rush will still be holding the money-bags after competition and regulation have completed its work.

That the stock market is ignoring both these precepts is



clear from the stratospheric valuations placed on companies such as Microsoft, Cisco Systems, Dell, Yahoo!, WorldCom, Amazon.com and other technology, media and marketing stocks that have sprinkled themselves with digital stardust. Microsoft and Dell, for example, may deserve recognition as brilliant marketing companies, on a par with Coca-Cola or Gillette. Yet at 60 to 70 times annual earnings, the stock market values Microsoft and Dell far more highly than even the best marketing stocks — as if the rapid growth they have enjoyed for a few short years demonstrated their command of some new and uniquely unassailable technology, rather than such old-fashioned virtues as brand recognition, efficient management and unrelenting market power.

On the durability of early market leadership, Wall Street's euphoria is even more bizarre. Dozens of Internet and media companies such as Amazon and Yahoo! have made almost no profits yet are worth billions of dollars. Such valuations are rationalised because these companies have created completely new markets — for shopping and advertising on the Internet — that seem fast-growing and excit-

ing. But will Amazon remain the dominant Internet bookstore if other experienced retailers enter the fray? Will Yahoo! retain its dominance over Internet listings, if this business is attacked by media companies with trusted brand names, close relations with advertisers and long track-records of editing timely, interesting information that is relevant to consumers' needs?

The answer to such questions is almost certainly no, which is why Internet euphoria can accurately be described as a bubble. But more interesting than the dubious prospects for today's faddish companies is the question of how established companies in related industries should respond to the digital gold rush. The economic forces suggest at least two conclusions that go against today's conventional wisdom.

Firstly, the biggest beneficiaries of the digital revolution are unlikely to include the present darlings of Wall Street. Personal computer manufacturing, TV and cable provision, Internet connection services and even the marketing of operating systems or other basic software are well on their way to becoming commodity businesses.

Prices and ultimately profits will be driven down either by competition or regulation. Economics suggests that whatever is abundant eventually becomes cheap. Politics suggests that whoever makes extraordinary profits by controlling the supply of an inherently cheap essential service — be it telephones or oil — is eventually deprived of the monopoly rents through regulation or taxation.

The price competition that finally broke out last year in the personal computer business is only a forerunner of what lies in store as the price of basic, functional computers falls towards the £300 or so paid today for a colour TV. The best that companies such as Microsoft and Dell can expect in the long run is the chance to make a strategic choice. Will they become the Ford or Exxon of the future through competition or will they submit to regulation and become tomorrow's Consolidated Edison or AT&T? Competition will also cut into monopoly profits for suppliers of raw information, news and data since the quantity and speed of communication is growing almost as computer processing power.

Who, then, will reap the long-term rewards as computing and information both be-

come surplus commodities? Presumably it will be the businesses that can transform cheap information into something more interesting, useful, educational, entertaining or easy to use. But even the purveyors of intelligence, rather than information, are unlikely to gain durably dominant positions. It is almost inconceivable that any information or technology company, however successful, will sustain in the long run the sort of market valuation now attached to Microsoft.

The second big surprise about the digital revolution may seem like a matter of paradoxical interest to people in the media, but is actually of great significance for every aspect of modern culture. The Internet's most important effect may be to end the ascendancy of television and strengthen the written word. The visual media are under siege from several directions. On one side, the proliferation of digital media is undermining the economics of broadcasting. Mainstream TV networks are rapidly losing market share to cable, digital and pay-TV. Even more importantly, Americans are spending less time in total in front of the box; the Internet is peeling away the audience, especially among the young. To make matters worse, the cost of visual production is rapidly rising, as proliferating channels expand the demand for proven "talent".

Yet on the verbal side of the visual/verbal divide, the digital revolution is proving more benign. The Internet is first and foremost a medium of words. E-mail is reviving the art of letter writing. The hierarchical structure of information on the Internet favours the written word. Despite all the hype about live-action 3-D animations, many heavy Internet users actually switch off graphics when they have the choice. Yahoo!, the most successful of all the websites, until recently had no graphics at all. Although newspaper circulations in America are falling, specialist magazines are flourishing.

For verbal media that have managed to survive the heyday of the TV era, the additional challenge from the Internet is likely to be relatively small. In fact, newspapers and magazines with strong brand identities and monopoly niches, defined by regions, political ideologies or specialised content, should find it easier than TV stations to make themselves heard above the din of proliferating media competition.

Of course, the written messages of the future may not come on paper delivered through the door. But if technology ever comes up with a more convenient medium than paper for reading, this will boost, not threaten, the written word. Some far-off day you may find it more comfortable to read this article on your laptop than on a paper sheet. But whatever the medium, I hope you will find this article more interesting, or at least more valuable, than a 3-D animation of an android flying around the moon.

Sports & Outdoor breaks into the big league

Having arrived on the Alternative Investment Market with little publicity two weeks ago, Sports & Outdoor Media International is an extremely rare beast. There are hardly any quoted sports advertising and sponsorship specialists. Indeed, the only real way to invest in this sector is to buy shares in Interpublic, the US marketing services group that owns the fast-growing Octagon operation.

But Sports & Outdoor is no Octagon. It is a strange hybrid of a beast, having been created by John Beckwith, the property tycoon and uncle of media celebrity, Tamara, from the amalgamation of an Australian and a British company. It operates from an opulent office overlooking Hyde Park in central London, where the receptionist alternatively answers the phone "Pacific Investments" or "Beckwith Capital Partners" or "River & Mercantile".

Given that the businesses that make up the group were purchased in the past 16 months for little more than £13 million, it is hard to see why the market has so taken it to its bosom, marking up the shares from their placing price of 70p to 95.5p yesterday, giving the group a valuation of more than £30 million.

The main operation is in advertising boards, mostly on the perimeters of sports grounds. However, it also has the intriguingly named Sydney Airport Spectacular, a giant advertising hoarding on the road to Australia's main airport. In the UK, the mainstay of the company is its cricket deal with the six Test match grounds, which brought in £4.8 million last year. However, three of those contracts — for Trent Bridge, Edgbaston and Old Trafford — end this season. Simon Halden, Sports & Outdoor's chief executive, says it is confident that it will retain the contracts — although there are some others in the industry who think the competition will be stiff — and, anyway, losing the contracts does not mean that the company will not actually sell perimeter advertising at the groups.

"Typically, we sell the advertising in a deal that includes a board at all the grounds, plus some corporate hospitality," he says. The price for all of this would be in the region of £300,000 a year.

Mr Halden is trying to expand Sports & Outdoor's portfolio. It has struck deals in rugby and is trying to break into football. Its big break has been a controversial arrangement that has seen it recently appointed as sponsorship consultant to the FA Premier League.

In the Premier League deal, the idea is to sign five "name" sponsorships, priced at £1.8 million each per year, to stand behind the main Premier League sponsor, Carling.

So far, only one of these deals has been announced, with Nestlé, which has become the official confectionary of the Premier League (no doubt vying with Snickers, the official snack food of the Football Association). For this, Nestlé gets two boards at each of the 20 Premier League grounds for the whole season.



JASON NISSE

Another deal, with *The Daily Telegraph*, is also rumoured to have been struck, though the price is said to have been less than £1 million.

Other sponsorship consultants have been angry about the deal, saying that they did not get any chance to bid. There are suggestions that the deal came from the fact that Peter Leaver, the chief executive of the Premier League, knew Mr Beckwith from the time Mr Leaver was a practicing QC. However, both Mr Halden and Steve Pearson, marketing director of the Premier League, say that this friendship had nothing to do with the contract award.

The proof of the pudding

will be in the eating. If Sports & Outdoor can deliver five valuable sponsorship contracts to the Premier League, then no one will moan about how the contract was won. However, with sponsors already moaning about how expensive football is becoming, this might be a tricky task, especially for such a young company.

□ This week's contribution to "bad ad watch" has to be from One-2-One, the mobile phone company. Though the "Who would you like to have a One-2-One with" campaign is excellent, one of the ads shows how dangerous it can be to rely too

heavily on a celebrity for your advertising. One advert features Ian Wright, the footballer, who has a One-2-One with Martin Luther King. Unfortunately, since the item was shot, Mr Wright has changed club. Though he now plays for West Ham United, the advert still shows him with an Arsenal shirt. I think the mobile phone firm should have a One-2-One with its advertising agency, Bartle Bogle Hegarty.

□ It is a perpetual moan that many of the best films released do not find screen space outside London. The big Hollywood blockbusters, such as *Godzilla* or *Armageddon*, tend to fill up the multiplexes, leaving little space for art-house movies, even quite popular ones like *The Crying Game* or *My Left Foot*.

However, a deal to be announced late this week between Stella Artois, the lager brand, and UCI, Europe's largest multiplex chain, should change this. Stella already has quite an involvement with film, sponsoring Channel 4's current movie series and ripping off the classic *Jean de Florette* for its "reassuringly expensive" advertising campaign.

It is to back a 15-week season, starting next week, which will have special showings of films that have not been widely shown, such as *The Big Lebowski* or *The Wedding Singer*, as well as previews of yet-to-be-released movies such as *X-Files*, *The Avengers* and *Velvet Goldmine* (which would fall into the first category as well).

On top of this there will be all sorts of special promotions, the largest being one to give away one million cinema tickets. The only trouble is that, while you are at the cinema, you cannot be in the pub drinking Stella. Well, you can't have everything.

Actor Jonathan Rhys Meyers plays pop in *Velvet Goldmine*

ALL CLEAR NOW?

bumf *n.* usu. derog. papers, documents (often prec. by what's all this; I'm not signing clause 2, para 4, sub.2.4.6 of this, etc), for rapid trans.

affidavit *n.* 1 agreeable Welsh farmer 2 written statement produced in court which should be carefully drawn up.

paralegal *n.* 1 one who provides advice at great height (usu. 20,000 feet) 2 wordy legal document with many indented lines 3 a person trained in subsidiary legal matters.

case-law *n.* 1 the principle that a suitcase will always travel in an equal and opposite direction to the aircraft you're in 2 the law as established by the outcome of former cases.

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Native tracker

VIRGIN has made a strange choice for the new managing director of its personal finance business. The business that claims to eschew all those traditional City values of stock-picking and investment analysis in favour of straight index-tracking, or following the market, has hired a true City grandee.

Simon Clegg used to be at Hoare Govett and stayed on for a while as managing director for Continental Europe following the merger with ABN Amro. He last graced these pages running an information technology consultancy, Galileo Research, with the help of Steve Redgrave, the Olympic rowing champion.



Virgin will take Simon Clegg back to his financial roots

Clegg is now taking a back seat at Galileo and Redgrave has also departed. Virgin says his re-emergence in financial services is a coincidence and he has been hired because of his experience in setting up Galileo. "It's his management skills that he's bringing in," it claims. "It's in no way indicating a change of plan as far as our investment approach goes."

AMERICAN EXPRESS is advertising for Swedish-speaking and German-speaking managers of purchasing at its consultancy group, whatever that may be. The need is obviously a pressing one. The ad, in *The Economist*, contains three words of Swedish, two of them misspelt. The German version isn't much better.

Love and peace

THERE is a terribly fashionable store on the Fulham Road called Voyage which sells the sort of hippy-look clothes you could not give away in 1976 at stupid 1998 prices. Jemima Khan wore flowing frocks from there during her pregnancy. This is one of those peculiar shops that bars the door to anyone who is neither trendy nor rich enough, and Peter Simon, head of the Monsoon chain of ethnic-look dress shops, was until recently one of the few who could be guaranteed a welcome.



He would drop in to browse among the 700 hippy-look dresses for friends and family and share a cup of coffee with Voyage's owner, Tiziano Mazzilli. Until recently, Simon, who started Monsoon in 1972 as a similarly up-market business on Beauchamp Place, has been banned from the place because the excitable Mazzilli, reckoning in Monsoon's collections, Monsoon has, of course, been peddling ethnic-inspired, velvet-trimmed clothes for the past twenty-six years, so quite what has inspired this latest rift I cannot say. As if anyone could tell one shapeless purple sack from another.

Swan's way

Chris Swan, chairman and chief executive of car parts distributor Finelast, is so keen to merge with rival Partco,

a bid that looks like it could prove the most bad-tempered of the summer, that he is willing to give up one of his twin positions, in line with best Cadbury behaviour on corporate governance.

"I want to have face-to-face discussions with Partco about the composition of the board of directors of a merged group," said Swan. "It is my intention to accommodate people's requirements." This is a rare show of humility from a man who is not normally keen to share the glory, and I suggest Phil Wragg, chief executive at Partco, makes a careful note of this promise. It might be an idea to get it in writing too.

To celebrate Belgian Independence Day today, King Albert II has conferred on some more of his subjects the title of Baron. (This is a little known honour aimed at making it easier for us all to play the after-dinner game of naming six famous Belgians by occasionally hoisting the few available candidates into public view). One recipient this time is Paul Bypse, pronounced Bursen, the new chief executive of Vickers. My congratulations to the man who has cornered the business market at least in famous Belgians.

Future shock

I SEE that Orange, the mobile phone company, has just appointed a director of futurology. Kenny Hirschhorn will also be in charge of strategy and research and development. He is arriving a little late, alas, because had

he been around earlier, his futurological powers could easily have predicted the dire state of the phone lines into the company over the past month.

Orange announced a new pricing package a while back, since when mobile phone owners have been complaining that it is taking up to 40 minutes, for the truly patient or truly obstinate, to get through. At least one firm of dealers says it can take 15 to 20 minutes to confirm a new sale.

Now Orange has been forced to put a recorded message on its helpline apologising for the delay and promising urgent action to resolve the problem, including bringing in new phone operators. The problem came about, I am told, because of unprecedented and unexpectedly high levels of demand.

MARTIN WALLER



"I think it's something to do with its rarity value"

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

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Source: FT Information

Shares trade in narrow band

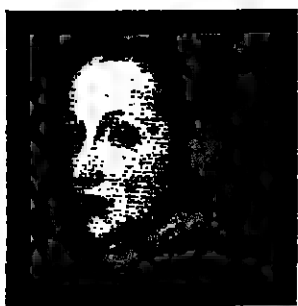
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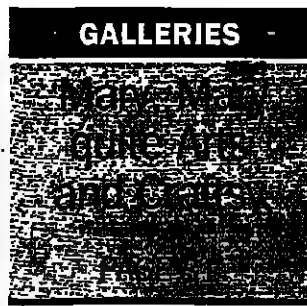
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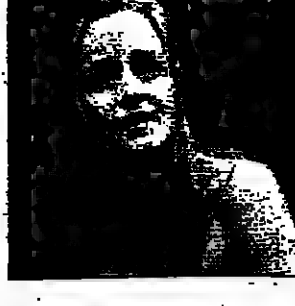
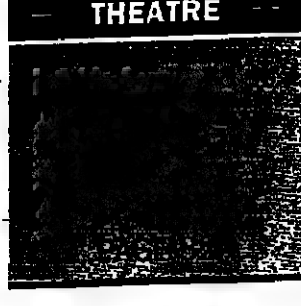
GALLERIES



THE TIMES

ARTS

THEATRE



Aix revitalised by youthful participants

OPERA: One of Europe's most famous festivals has been relaunched with an educational slant. Rodney Milnes reports

In British operatic circles education is a big buzz-word nowadays, or a small one, depending on where you work. So there could be lessons to be learnt from the new Aix Festival. It has had ups and downs in its 50-year history, went dark last year, and has now been relaunched under the direction of Stéphane Lissner, formerly of the Châtelet in Paris.

In one respect the programme is traditionally glamorous: Peter Brook lured back to opera for a new *Don Giovanni*, the combination of Pierre Boulez and Pina Bausch in Bartók's *Bluebeard's Castle* still to come, and further performances of Trisha Brown's version of the Monteverdi *Orfeo*, already seen at the Barbican.

But in another respect it is carefully tailored to contemporary concerns. It is now the Aix Festival combined with the European Academy of Music, 100 hand-picked young people from theatrical as well as musical disciplines who are giving performances of *Dido and Aeneas* and *Curlow River*, supplying the chorus for the Mozart, and workingshopping half a dozen dance and opera projects, some (if successful) to be presented next year.

All of this is massively politically correct, as is the fact that *Giovanni* is double-cast and conducted either by Claudio Abbado or by the 23-year-old Daniel Harding, and you don't know which until you turn up. But it is sensible as well as PC, and must help in attracting gov-

ernment support and sponsorship. And it appears to be working. There is no sense of "them and us": the Academy performances are as sold-out as the mainstream offerings, and so are the students' recitals. Mind you, the management could probably mount a festival of performing fleas and sell out. Aix is one of the most beautiful, lively and welcoming cities in Europe.

Dido, performed in the courtyard of one of Aix's innumerable 17th-century hotels, was excitingly conducted by the American David Stern — no whiff of Baroque piety — with decent performances of the title roles by the statuesque Silvia Hahlowitz and the musical Andrew Rupp. The production, in North African dress but set in Arthur Evans's Knossos, was perhaps unnecessarily mysterious.

Brook's *Giovanni* has been generally received with untrammelled admiration. For me, anything happening on stage — not a lot in the event — was decisively upstaged by what was happening in the pit. Abbado conducted, quite magnificently, but whoever happened to be on the podium was less significant than the results of weeks of careful preparation.

The young players of the Mahler Chamber Orchestra, many smiling seraphically, watching the conductor (this doesn't always happen), watching the stage when not otherwise occupied, were doing far more

than accompanying. They were leading it in an act of inspired communal music-making.

Textures were crystal-clear; it was like seeing a picture with centuries of varnish removed. Transitions between recitative and aria were handled with thrilling theatrical know-how; the action sped along. One example to show why this was a performance in a thousand: Elvira's *Mi tradi* is traditionally a bit of a hurdle race: can the soprano get through it? Here, Abbado's gentle but propelled tempo allowed Melanie Diener, the best singer on stage, to sing every phrase as if it were music.

Brook's production, in modern dress, was desperately serious, and lacked four elements essential to any *Giovanni*. It was short on laughs; only Gilles Cachemaille's sardonic Leporello managed to salvage the odd smile from the joylessness. There was little suggestion of class conflict, which is at the centre of the action: Giovanni and Masetto were interchangeable, and there was an inescapable whiff of suburbia to a show that seemed to be happening in a suburban bar.

There was no set: Peter Mattei, a handsome young Swede who has made a success of *Giovanni* elsewhere, was reduced to a blank canvas. And there was no danger, no theatrical frisson, which Brook might consider vulgar but Mozart surely didn't. This was *Don Giovanni* in the head, not on the stage, and a grave disappointment.



Gilles Cachemaille (Leporello), Gudjon Oskarsson (Commendatore), Peter Mattei (Giovanni) in Peter Brook's staging of *Don Giovanni*

TAKE A FRIEND TO THE THEATRE FOR JUST 30p

Today *The Times* offers readers the unbeatable opportunity, when you buy a full-price ticket for yourself, to buy another for a friend for just 30p. To qualify for your 30p ticket, simply collect four differently numbered tokens. Bookings must be made by August 15 by calling a telephone number and posting the tokens to an address which will be published, with the phone number, from tomorrow. The 30p ticket must be for the same performance as the full price ticket. Readers must collect four differently numbered tokens for every 30p ticket they buy. Tokens will be matched against telephone bookings. This 30p offer is subject to ticket availability.

CITY BALLET OF LONDON: TRIPLE BILL

Peacock Theatre, £20 (£22.50 Fri) eve 2-4 Sept, mat Sept 5. The Mark Baldwin premiere of a specially devised new work and two rarely-performed neo-classical pieces, including Balanchine's *Dorizetti Variations*.

COOL HEAT URBAN BEAT (right above)

Peacock Theatre, £22.50 eve Sept 8-10, 14-17, mat Sept 12 and 19. The phenomenal US-based company perform jazz, tap and hip hop in an exuberant street-style show.

CELEBRITY PIANO RECITAL: LARS VOGT

The Barons' Hall, Arundel Castle, £20 eve August 26. Lars Vogt is described by Sir Simon Rattle as "one of the most extraordinary musicians of any age group I have had the fortune to be associated with."

JANÁČEK'S JENŮFA by Welsh National Opera
Bristol Hippodrome, £42.50, Nov 5; Oxford Apollo, £46, Oct 6;
Birmingham Hippodrome, £44, Oct 27; Liverpool Empire, £36.50, Nov 13.
Directed by the highly-acclaimed RSC theatre director, Katie Mitchell.

VERDI'S UN BALLO IN MASCHERA by Welsh National Opera
Bristol Hippodrome, £42.50, Nov 3; Oxford Apollo, £46, Oct 8;
Birmingham Hippodrome, £44, Oct 29; Liverpool Empire, £36.50, Nov 10.
This revival with a distinguished cast is conducted by Gareth Jones.

DUTCH NATIONAL BALLET (right)

Edinburgh International Festival, Edinburgh Playhouse, £35 eve Aug 24, 25, 26. This world class company performs a varied programme by the celebrated choreographer Hans van Manen.



CHANGING TIMES

THE survivors of the classic era of postwar Chicago blues could nowadays fit into the back of a London taxi. Of them, the best known and most gifted is Buddy Guy, and his place in the blues pantheon is assured. After a lacklustre period, which saw him frantically away his immense talents, his recordings have in recent years become sharper and more focused. But at his live gigs there is always a tendency for the showman to take over from the bluesman.

When he reveals the screaming vocals and blistering guitar solos that have electrified audiences since the late 1950s there is probably no blues artist to equal him. But when he stops numbers halfway through for one of his extended question and answer rou-

Muddied waters

BLUES



tines with the audience you feel that any musical impetus is squandered.

Backed by bass, drums, rhythm guitar and keyboards, Guy opened with an almost frantic version of *Got My Mojo Working* before slowing the tempo down for one of the evening's high spots, a tortured reading of the Eddie Boyd classic *Five Long Years*. Then came *Feels Like Rain*

and an impassioned guitar solo which saw him going walkabout from the stage, up through the aisles and disappearing into a mass of cheering fans. By the time he was back on stage he had swapped his guitar pick for a drumstick and the song had turned into *Sunshine of Your Love*.

"Muddy Waters told me to watch my Ps and Qs when I came to England," said Guy, before launching into *Hoochie Coochie Man* which turned mid-song into his own recent hit, *Damn Right I Got The Blues*. Then it was showtime, with Guy performing take-offs of John Lee Hooker and Lightnin' Hopkins. His

new CD, *Heavy Love*, provided the next number. *Midnight Love*, which was aimed squarely at the blues rock brigade. But it was back to the blues in a big way after that with the subdued but beautifully performed *Mercy Dee* Walton standard, *One Room Country Shack*.

The evening ended with one of Guy's most heartfelt pronouncements: "There are only a handful of real blues players left in the last year we have lost Junior Wells, Johnny Copeland, Jimmy Rogers and Luther Allison," he said, before dedicating a version of *Little By Little* to the artist who first performed it — his former partner and long-time friend, Junior Wells.

JOHN CLARKE

Rather too tight for comfort

On the cover of Herbie Hancock's 1996 album, *The New Standard*, the famous pianist is pictured relaxing in an old porch chair, wearing spottles but casual white clothes and matching loafers. The desired impression of chic informality, however, is seriously compromised by a single detail: the shoes' soles are completely unmarked. They have been doctored specially for the photo session.

Such careful image-building has clearly worked for Hancock. His arrival on stage at the Barbican on Saturday was greeted with a degree of rapture seldom associated with jazz musicians, and even his lengthy introductory rumble about the problems bassist Kenny Davis had had in replacing his flight-damaged instrument was punctuated by gales of laughter and shouts of encouragement from a sell-out house.

Thereafter, everything he or his band did, not only individual solos but those statements and four-trading, was cheered to the echo. Hancock's reputation has reached that enviable plateau where his mere presence is enough to delight. The music he plays is almost a side issue.

On this occasion, he and his band — completed by Davis, saxophonist Craig Handy and drummer Gene Jackson — balanced their 90-minute set between material from *The New Standard* (a selection of pop

JAZZ CONCERTS

tunes by the likes of the Beatles, Sade, Simon and Garfunkel and Steely Dan) and more conventional, old standards. Cole Porter's *I Love You* and the Herzog/Kitchings classic *Forever Associated with Billie Holiday*, *Some Other Spring* represented the latter, Don Henley's *New York Minute* and Peter Gabriel's *Mercy Street* the former.

Those giveaway shoes were again right on the button, symbolically. Whereas the standards betrayed all the signs of jazz use and familiarity — among them hospitable chord sequences over which fluent soloing was possible and a conventional song structure facilitating, for instance, the swapping of solo duties during the middle eight — the new, while superficially attractive, pinched and rubbed when put to use. Their tunes were simply too jejune to accommodate sophisticated improvisation, their overall shape not at all conducive to the easy, free-flowing interplay essential to jazz exploration.

This is not to say that Hancock's quartet was seriously below par. There were many occasions when the great pianist reminded us that the sound of him suddenly peeling off from the rhythm section into a luminous, sparkling solo is one of the most distinctive and enjoyable in jazz. But one can question whether either his choice



Herbie Hancock: more star than musician these days

of material or the level of his onstage commitment to full-blooded extemporisation is what it once was.

The singer Stacey Kent, raised on the music of Frank Sinatra and Nat "King" Cole, has undoubtedly been helped in garnering the sort of critical notices publicists dream about by the single-mindedness of her approach to her craft. But Monday night audiences at Ronnie Scott's are not widely celebrated for their willingness to be spellbound merely by a singer's integrity. They need to be drawn into the songs' emotional world, to feel they are being confided in.

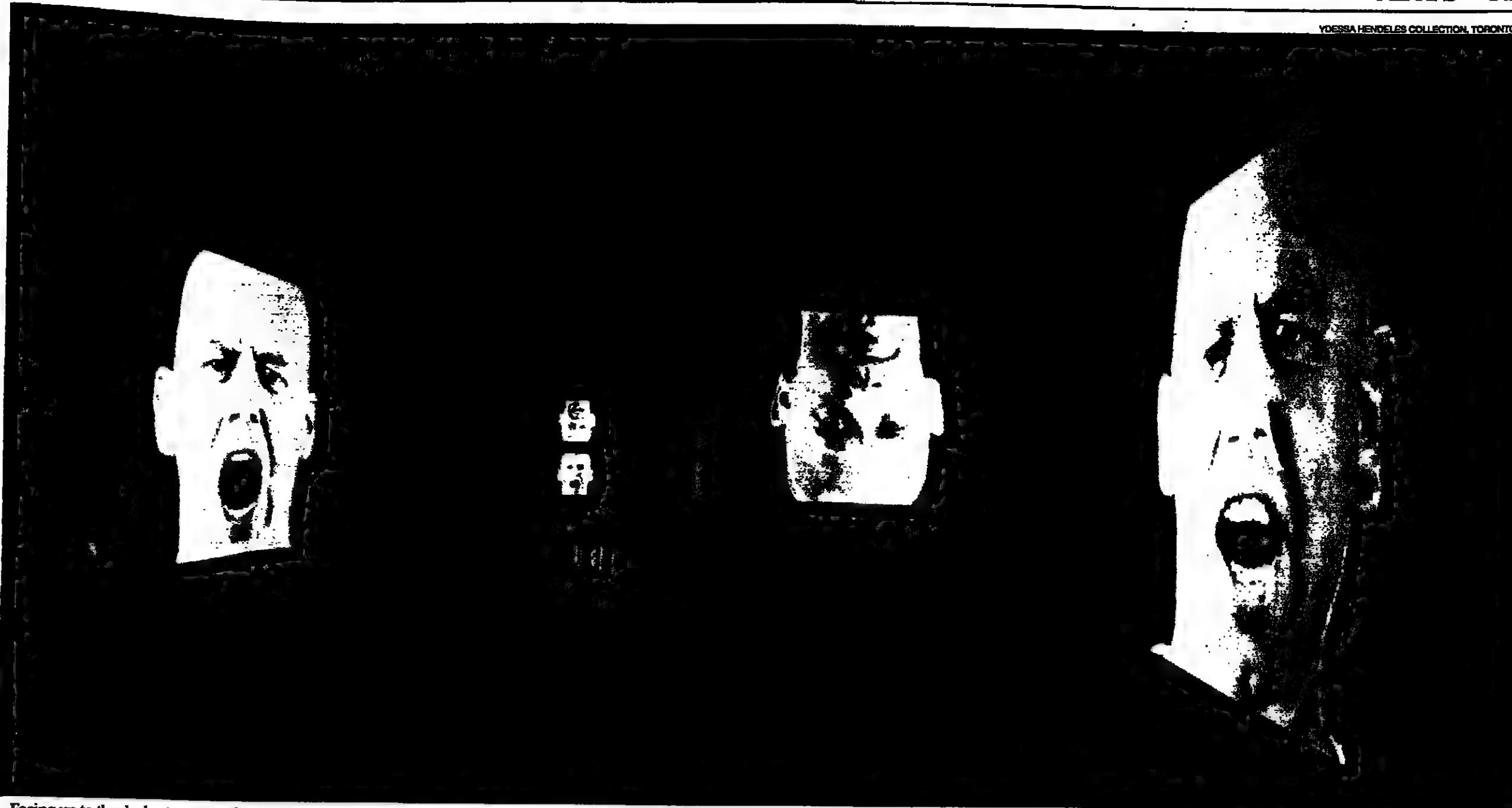
Her warmth and intelligence and her unaffected stage manner, the rare ability to live inside a lyric, to such an extent that it flows from her with all the ease and naturalness of informal conversation.

In her set-opener, *Comes Love*, for instance, she contrasted all the apparently easily remedied shocks flesh is heir to — rainstorms, burst tyres, toothaches, bailiffs — with the irresistible love of the title by employing precisely the mix of mock-rueful resignation masking joyful acceptance required by the lyric. *The Gershwins They All Laughed* — another "list" song requiring its singer to convey unalloyed delight at requited love while delivering lyrics about the Rockefeller Center, Whitney's cotton gin and Hershey bars — came over with equally genuine sincerity, as did the Jimmy van Heusen/Sammy Cahn classic, *The Tender Trap*.

Although such bright, witty songs form the bedrock of her act, Kent is also a superb torch singer, imbuing slow-burners like Vincent Youmans's *More Than You Know* or Berlin's *They Say It's Wonderful* with all the vulnerability they demand, while never slipping into sentimentality. Like the late Ella Fitzgerald, Kent has too much respect for her material to indulge herself at its expense. The Great American Song Book has seldom been in more sensitive, capable hands.

CHRIS PARKER

مكتبة من الأصل

Facing up to the darkest aspects of the human predicament: Bruce Nauman's *Anthro/Socio*, compiled in 1991, uses a typically eclectic mixture of three video projectors, six monitors with stereo speakers, six CD players and six CDs

A disembodied voice, floating out of the Hayward Gallery and over the puddle-strewn concrete walkway beyond, shouts: "You are evil!" The words serve as an apt warning for the experiences on offer within. For Bruce Nauman, whose 30-year career is surveyed there, has no intention of shielding us from the bleakest aspects of the human predicament. By the time we emerge from this emotion-wrenching show Nauman ensures that we have been exposed to a gamut of powerful, unpredictable and often raw feelings about ourselves.

A multi-faceted individual, who leaps nimbly from one manner of working to another, Nauman has influenced younger artists in all kinds of ways. Damien Hirst and Rachel Whiteread are only the most prominent of the British practitioners who owe him debts, and yet he remains a tantalising, enigmatic figure who protects his privacy. Indiana-born, California-educated and now living on a 600-acre ranch in New Mexico, Nauman evades facile definition. Roaming with ease from sculpture to photography, from neon to video and much else, he is defiantly unclassifiable. And therein lies his appeal for a 1990s generation which also thrives on open-ended attitudes.

Not that he is admired simply for blurring the boundaries. Whatever medium he employs, Nauman commands respect for the potency of images at once uncompromisingly direct and difficult to pin down.

Part of his elusiveness stems from his unexpected, highly un-American, ironic humour. "Run from Fear," a neon work declares, confronting us as we move into the first large room. Like several of the phrases used elsewhere in Nauman's work, these three words were taken from a graffiti he came across by chance. But the note of urgency they sound here is undercut, immediately, by the wry variation he has added beneath: "Run from Fear."

We find ourselves smiling at the ironic mixture of anxiety and playfulness summed up in this apparently straightforward exhibit. Nauman's use of neon-lit messages recalls advertising slogans, but the messages he conveys are so paradoxical that they could never be deployed in the hard-selling of a commercial product.

Sounds of a bellowing man pull our attention away, and we find images of the artist's own head confronting us in a darkened room. Some are small, relayed either inverted or the right way up on stacked monitors. Others are colossal, projected onto walls from machines casually supported by manufacturers' packing cases marked "laserdisc".

Nauman makes no attempt to

GALLERIES: The Hayward's Bruce Nauman show reveals a bleak but highly original mind at work, Richard Cork writes

disguise the technology he deploys. Its mechanics are openly displayed, as if we were witnessing a trial demonstration in the artist's own studio. Nothing prevents us from wandering around the space, or blocking the passage of light from the projector with our own bodies. This freedom draws us into the work: we almost become part of it. But there are limits to this involvement. Staring at the artist's upside-down yellow face on the end wall, as monumental as a dictator's head yet emitting nothing more sinister than a low hum, we realise that the work stays at a remove and retains its aura of strangeness.

The longer we stay, the more disconcerting the show becomes. One small white room is empty, save for a lightbulb lodged in the ceiling. Then we hear breathing: spasmodic, urgent, and at times alarmingly reminiscent of puking. The man making the noise must be alone, muttering or even chanting to himself. According to the work's title, he is saying: "Get Out of My Mind, Get Out of This Room". But the words are inaudible, and after a

while he sounds alarmingly deranged. Standing in the room is akin to being locked up with a lunatic, or a reclusive unhinged by booze, drugs and the lack of anyone to talk to.

Nauman likes heightening our response to a work by channeling our bodies into spaces he has shaped. The most threatening is the Live-Taped Video Corridor, where we are invited to walk towards two monitors at the far end. So narrow that the walls brushed my shoulders on either side, the corridor only allows one visitor to make the journey at a time.

I found it intensely claustrophobic, and on the top monitor my own shadowy image was seen, from behind, moving towards the screen. On the monitor below, however, I was absent. Only the empty passage is visible here: I suddenly felt as if I did not exist.

Not that Nauman excludes himself from these ordeals. Opposite the corridor, a giant close-up image of the artist's face is projected on a wall. The camera travels in slow motion around his features, pass-

ing as he thrusts a finger hard into his ear, his nose and, most disquietingly, his eye. He seems near to injuring himself, but his expression remains deadpan throughout.

Nauman cultivates a stoical expression whenever he appears in his own work. Near by, some early black-and-white videos are relayed on monitors, showing the young artist pacing a room, walking a circle or standing on one leg. His movements are as minimal as the sculpture he admired at the time, by Richard Serra and other American contemporaries.

The deftness of Nauman's gestures also reflects his involvement with experimental dance and music. Above all, though, he presents himself in these simple exercises as a lonely figure from a Beckett play, forever condemned to enact a series of rituals that seem both trance-like and pointless.

Nauman is fascinated by absurdity. In one slow-motion piece, a man is seen slipping up on a banana skin to fall, with jarring

impact, on his back. Over and over again he tumbles, as though weirdly addicted to the silliness and humiliation involved. But he is not as childish as the clown who, in another projection, sits on the lavatory sighing, burping, leafing through a magazine, grabbing toilet paper and stuffing it between the pages, weeping, snoring and picking at his teeth with a white-gloved finger. Afflicted by a combination of tedium and acute anxiety, he seems to be undergoing a nervous crisis. But the monitors show him performing aggressively, yelling "no, no, no" at an unseen audience as he flails his arms, legs and ludicrous, outsize shoes.

All this bottled-up frustration explodes in a multi-screen work called *Violent Incident*. Our eyes are tugged from one monitor to the next, each presenting a moment from the struggle between a man and a woman. Initially polite, they degenerate with gruesome speed into murderous brawls. The whole conflict is, simultaneously, puerile and sickening. Fascinated by yoking together contradictory extremes, Nauman can convey his complex meanings as effectively with actors as he does with words. But the most impressive work relies on colour and verbal ele-

ments. We encounter *One Hundred Live and Die* while approaching a short flight of stairs. Ahead of us, filling the wall below, are four vertical columns each containing 25 three-word phrases. At first, they remain dark apart from an isolated component, lit up in dazzling neon. "Suck and Die," says one, to be followed by "Rage and Live".

On and on they go, bouncing us from one end of existence to another. The spectrum of glowing hues is orchestrated with seductive flair, and when all 100 phrases are eventually illuminated they emblazon their surroundings with an incandescent richness. A desperate awareness of mortality is pitched here against a hunger for sensuous delight. Destruction and elation are held in a precarious balance, but the climactic eruption of luminosity ensures that the work ends in a resplendent state.

Upstairs, another outstanding installation projects the tawny shaven head of a man onto three walls of a blacked-out room. Although the words he shouts are hard to make out, a fundamental opposition between "feed me" and "eat me" does become clear. Individual words are, however, soon subsumed within a mesmeristic chant. Demanding, fierce and stubbornly optimistic, this relentless yet energising mantra sums up Nauman's ability to stave off the perpetual advance of darkness.

● Bruce Nauman (sponsored by Beckett) is at the Hayward Gallery, South Bank (0171-928 3146, until Sept 6)

John Russell Taylor on a show celebrating the art of Mary Seton Watts

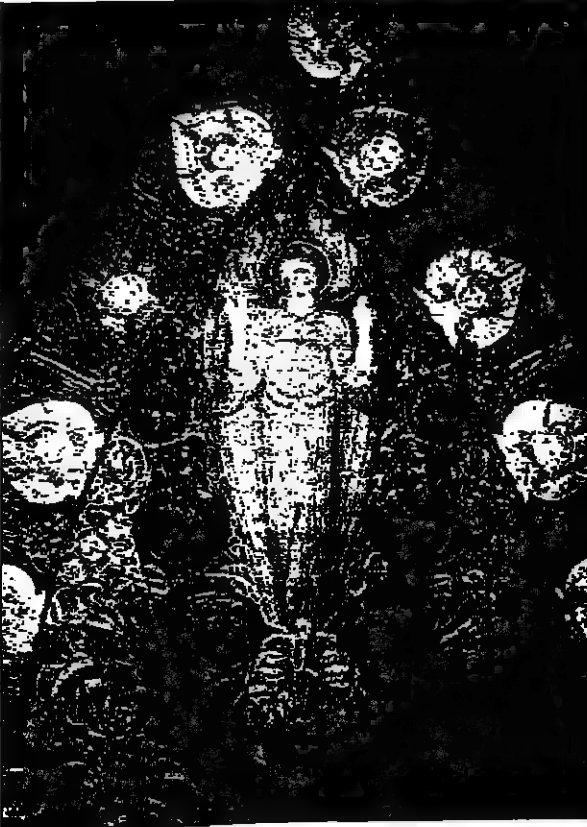
Suddenly the world seems to be crowded with forgotten heroines of art. Of course it is fashion which dictates that nowadays Sonia Delaunay should be regarded as "better" than Robert, Gwen John than Augustus, Emma Sandys than Frederick, and that it is only the patriarchy that has kept them in the shade of the adjacent man. But whether or not one believes in a male conspiracy, there is no doubt that really significant women artists have suffered from undue proximity to a male master, husband, brother or father. One of these is Mary Seton Watts, whose work is now celebrated in a solo exhibition at the Watts Gallery, Compton.

Mary Seton Fraser Tytler was born in India and brought up largely in Scotland. She first drifted into an artistic milieu when she got to know the photographer Julia Margaret Cameron; she and her sisters posed for Cameron's picture *Rosebud Garden of Girls* and Mary became her assistant, drawing the surrounds for her mounted photographs and making props for her.

In 1870, through Cameron, she met George Frederick Watts, "England's Michelangelo". He was 53; she was 21. A few years before Watts had been briefly married to the 16-year-old Ellen Terry; this time he was rather more circumspect. Mary continued her art studies in Dresden and Rome, and then at the Slade; she became Watts's student in 1876, and finally married him in 1886.

She was obviously of an independent and enterprising disposition, much interested in the craft side and social mission of art. In 1884, for instance, she had started

Heroine of the Surrey potters



The Watts chapel: a wild fantasia of coloured reliefs

clay-modelling classes for Whitechapel shoe-blacks. When the Watts moved to a newly built Arts and Crafts house near Guildford in 1891 it was natural that she should have a lot to do with the interior decoration, much of it modelled in plaster and gesso. Then, looking for something into which to channel her energies (other

house, now the Watts Gallery, and is the largest single exhibit in the rehabilitation process.

It is like nothing else in the country, terracotta on the outside, a wild three-dimensional fantasia of coloured reliefs within. The style can only be described as Celtic Art Nouveau, full of sinuous lines and intricate plant motifs, in which the human (or mostly superhuman) figures are embowered. The nearest comparison is with the murals of Phoebe Traquair, the subject of a similar revival in Edinburgh a couple of years back. Mary Watts knew Traquair and consulted her during the Compton project. The symbolism of the figures inevitably relates to George Frederick's hazily transcendental concepts, but stylistically there is actually little resemblance.

The chapel is certainly the masterpiece. But the show at the Watts Gallery strongly backs it up with examples of Mary's painting, print-making, weaving and a whole repertoire of other Arts and Crafts activities. Probably still the most telling are those related to modelling and ceramics: the large plant pots in naked terracotta and the smaller painted figures and plaques made under her supervision, if not directly to her designs, by the Compton Potters' Arts Guild, are all intensely characteristic. She lived on until 1938, and the pottery she founded and shaped did not close until 1955. Unsung heroine indeed; gratifyingly more than a mere appendage to the more famous George Frederick.

● Watts Gallery, Down Lane, Compton, Guildford, Surrey (01483 810235) until Sept 6

Londoners should be grateful to commercial galleries for surveying the work of senior artists who tend to be ignored by public galleries because they are not big enough names. John Russell Taylor writes. Josef Herman, for instance. There are currently two interlocking shows of his work which, taken together, constitute a remarkably comprehensive retrospective. They mark no particular occasion — he is at the awkwardly in-between age of 87 — but both shows clearly spring from a real affection for Herman's special gifts, so that vital loans have been winked out and scholarly, beautifully illustrated catalogues published for both.

Herman is one of those artists that people have a strong stereotype of: he is the one that does dark, hulking drawings of Welsh miners and, later, Spanish peasants. The dignity of toil and all that. Very commendable and social-

ly conscious — and also immediately recognisable. But possibly a little limited and monotonous?

That notion is knocked firmly on the head by these shows. There are, of course, drawings and watercolours which answer the description, but also evidence of a greater variety of approach and subject-matter than one would ever have thought possible.

To begin with, it is salutary to see so many of Herman's major oils. His approach to the medium is without parallel in British art, the comparison that immediately springs to mind being with the Flemish Expressionists and particularly Permeke.

One might wonder how an artist who came as an émigré from Poland to Britain, settling here in 1940, could possibly know of such art. The answer emerges from the bio-

graphical details in the catalogues: he stopped off in Belgium for two years on the way. The influence, or rather like-mindedness, is most evident in the big oils of miners and industrial workers at the Boundary Gallery, the best dating from the war years.

Very dark, very glum, you might say. But in fact one of Herman's most outstanding gifts is his use of colour. When we talk about colourists we usually think of Matisse and bright colour. Herman can use brilliant reds or blues as well as any. But none can come near him in the subtlety with which he evokes the warm and friendly dark, the rich glows which suffuse the night sky in summer, the light of distant fires.

For this reason he is also one of the great flower painters.

All his flower paintings are simple, just a vase of flowers such as yellow or red tulips boldly outlined against a darkish background. And yet the form and pattern fall absolutely right. The Flowers East show features these and many other aspects of his work, including strong nudes, some finely abstracted watercolours of trees, and the recent monumental *Human Moment* triptych (1993-97).

It also has some revealing early work, such as *My Family* (1940), which reminisces about Jewish family life in Warsaw in a style suggestive of Manet-Katz, and a 1946 *Self-Portrait* which looks slightly like Jawlensky. These may be the roads not travelled, but looking at the road Herman took instead, who can find fault with his choice?

● *Flowers East* at London Fields, 282 Richmond Road, E8 (0181-985 3333), until Aug 2. *Boundary Gallery*, 98 Boundary Road, NW8 (0171-624 1128) until Aug 2

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LAW

● BIG INQUIRY 35
● LAW REPORT 20



Tom Cruise as lawyer Mitch McDeere in the Hollywood film *The Firm*. He risks his life to keep on the right side of the law

Do you know the rules?

The recent troubles of Jane Hickman, a North London solicitor who took a pair of jeans into a prison on behalf of a client only to be arrested for her pains, show the dangers faced by those who practise criminal law. Quite properly, she had taken the clothing to the prison officers rather than direct to her client when she arrived and, in turn, they found a small amount of cannabis in a pocket, of which she had no knowledge.

It is easy to say: "Whenever was taking clothes into prison a part of a solicitor's work?" But if a solicitor undertaking criminal cases wants to establish a rapport with a client, such gestures go a long way to help. There must be few solicitors who regularly practise criminal law who have not done such favours for clients and their families over the years: mostly, without such disastrous consequences.

There are professional conduct guides published by the Law Society, but most of the difficult decisions arise on the spot. The best thing to say when a client asks a favour is to reply: "It depends on what it is." If only I had said that several years ago I would not have found myself in possession of a building society passbook which a police search of my client had failed to reveal because it was then *intra-rectum*.

If you are obliged to refuse when details of the favour are revealed, you lose face with the client. You are, as Roger Ede of the Law Society says, "working with people whose moral code is not your own and who may consider to be acceptable things that the courts would not. Solicitors take risks day in and day out and get very little credit."

But clients are often not averse to compromising those who are trying to help them.

There is a slippery slope down which solicitors and barristers may slide. The first rule is never to accept any invitation from a criminal client, even to lunch in a greasy spoon. And no matter how they entreat you to be best man, it does the professional image little good to be photographed at weddings with men in mohair suits, Havanas in mouths, and

James Morton explains why it's easy for solicitors to slip up when they have to deal with clients — and how to stick to the rules

flashing a lot of gold jewellery. Another step down the slope is accepting presents. Even in these hard times a "big drink" on an acquittal to supplement inadequate legal aid fees is not on; nor is the £300 private interview before a client signs a legal aid form.

Solicitors may not invent a defence, something the police and TV scriptwriters suspect they do of an evening instead of the crossword. I regard the thought as rather insulting.

If I could not have dreamed up better stories than my clients did, I would have considered my education wasted.

Some solicitors do help out. I had a client accused of a long-term fraud (buying goods on credit, then selling them for cash at a big discount before taking a big cruise) or LP as it is known in the trade. He had been to see another solicitor before me. "What's your name?" the lawyer had asked. "John Smith," replied my client. "LP is it?" asked the solicitor. And when my client nodded, he queried, speculatively: "Too late for a fire, then?"

Nor, however badly you believe your client has treated you, may you go public and denounce him or her, as did Elaine Whitfield-Sharp, Louise Woodward's lawyer. Pre-trial statements on the court steps disclaiming your client's total innocence may be part of the cut and thrust of American criminal cases but they are seriously frowned on here. As for the case itself, must you do exactly what your client wishes? It is clear that in an English court an advocate is free to present the case as he or she wishes.

So what about everyone's favourite question for lawyers at dinner parties? How do you defend someone you know is guilty? The answer is you very rarely know. You may seriously suspect but that is a wholly different matter. You are not the judge and jury. You must defend as best you can. You cannot say: "I think he's guilty so I won't try as hard as if I

Listening to the Lords on crime

Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, and Seán McConville argue that the Home Secretary would be wise to accept non-political policy advice

The House of Lords this week has a chance to display its limited muscle to act as an independent revising chamber when the Crime and Disorder Bill returns from the Commons. The Lords originally inserted a clause in the Bill which would create an independent standing body to advise the Home Secretary on Crime and Punishment. The Commons removed it. Now Lord Ackner, the retired Law Lord who promoted the original amendment, is urging the Lords to reinstate it.

The idea behind an advisory group is to take penal policy out of party politics. The idea is not new. In 1944, Herbert Morrison set up an Advisory Council on the Treatment of

have a keen interest in such a body, into which the Bill's provision for a sentencing advisory panel would fit neatly. What then can there be against re-establishing a non-partisan expert body that would advise on specific topics and monitor and interpret all relevant criminological research?

The objections of the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, to such a proposal are puzzling. His two main points are that he lacks no amount of advice from existing bodies and that another body, covering criminal justice and the penal system, could be a brake on swift and tough action on crime.

The notion of delay should be no bar. As when the Home Secretary refers a topic to his advisory body, he could specify a deadline. An advisory body is capable of submitting an interim report on an urgent topic. There are other topics suitable only for thorough deliberation and investigation, not limited by political deadlines. The fact that such a study is under way can reduce the political temperature. Far too many criminal jus-



Straw: reluctant to hear advice

ties policies of the past have been constructed on the hoof. None of the existing bodies is equipped to give over-arching advice on criminal justice and the penal system, or is independent of government. The Home Secretary tacitly acknowledges the absence of an ACTO or an ACPs (with extended terms of reference). At some stage he had been proffering to Lord Ackner and his supporters the compromise of giving the Criminal Justice Consultative Council a remit to tender advice. But that body, which includes three permanent secretaries of government departments, and criminal justice professionals, is a forum for all the agencies in criminal justice to iron out the practical wrinkles.

From the recommendation of the Woolf report on Prison Disturbances in 1991 to produce multi-agency solutions to every-day problems, it was never envisaged as an independent and authoritative advisory body on policy in criminal justice and the penal system. The response to problems of crime and punishment may have accelerated since the 1970s, but the Ackner amendment can provide the mechanism to produce sound policies for the 21st century.

Beating the hacks

VISITORS to *The Lawyer* website last week were confronted by a "news flash". The magazine had got wind — a few days ahead of the national media — of a scheduled appearance by Gary Streeter, a Tory Shadow Cabinet member, before the Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal, which took place last Thursday.

The paper — rather than wait for everybody else to run

OUTS

the story before its next issue — posted the story on its website.

Silk is cheap

CONFIRMATION that the silk system is a quality service comes from an answer given by Geoffrey Hoon, the Parliamentary Secretary at the Lord Chancellor's Department, to a written question last week.

Asked about the cost of processing silk applications, he revealed that the annual bill to

OUTS

the LCD amounted to £117,236 — or £230 per applicant. Still, small beer compared with the average cost of putting up a judge and his clerk in a judicial lodging for a day which, Mr Hoon said, was £615.18.

Ideas man

NEIL ADDISON, the former senior Crown Prosecutor and critic of the Crown Prosecution Service, seems to be the only person admitting that he

is going for the job of next Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP).

Mr Addison would certainly have a few ideas. He was the author last week of a Fabian Society pamphlet urging a unified Ministry of Justice — bringing the police, CPS, probation and prison services under one roof.

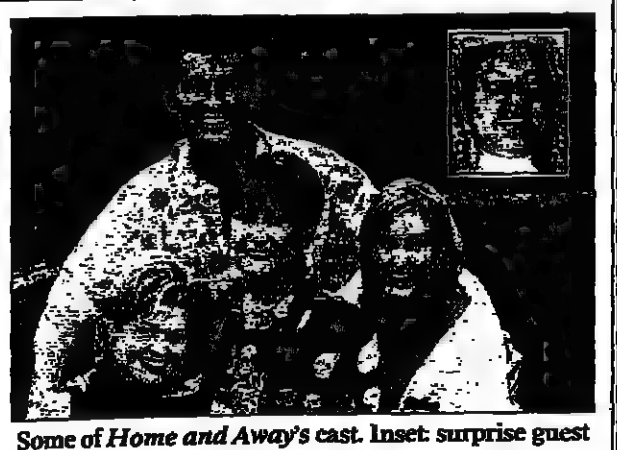
As for the CPS, he believes it should be removed from the civil service and the DPP given quasi-judicial status.

● **Tony Blair** has lent his support to the brochure for the sports law seminar being held on July 24 by the African, Caribbean and Asian Lawyers Group (Jerry Garvey 0171-320 5573) and attracting speakers such as Frank Sinclair and Eddie Newton. And Old Square Chambers is hosting a seminar today on environmental law — appropriately at the Forest Dining Rooms, Small Street, Bristol.

New Aussie soap shock

GEOFFREY Robertson, QC, makes a guest appearance in the Australian soap, *Home and Away*, this week. He is appearing as himself, in his part-time role as an assistant recorder. And, he proudly boasted last week, he delivered all his lines in one take.

The Australian-born barrister, who was attending the 25th anniversary party of the chambers of Sibghat Kadri, QC — the first multi-racial chambers to open in Britain — suggested to Garry Hart Lord Irvine of Lairg's policy adviser, that he could do worse than to



Some of *Home and Away*'s cast. Inset: surprise guest

Close shave?

THE VICTORS in last week's Law Society elections — Michael, Robert Sayer, and Karmlesh Bahl — have promised a radical review of the Law Society. However, there is one change that is too radical for Mr Matthews, the new president: the removal of his "mutton-chop" whiskers.

Asked at his victory press conference whether he planned to shave them, the answer was a firm "no". He might, he ventured, celebrate the end of his year with a shave.

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One of the US "bulge bracket", this house continues to enjoy a reputation for excellence. Unique amongst its peers, the bank has a number of transactional legal teams on the trading floor, integrated within the business.

A position has now arisen for a junior lawyer (NQ-18 months ppe) in the equity products group. Opportunities are rarely seen where lawyers are expected to take such an active role in the deal process. The team, comprising experienced investment banking lawyers, has the expertise to offer a thorough training, though some background in finance or banking coupled with an analytical brain would be necessary.

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Closing date for applications: 4th August 1998.

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A non-stipendiary fellowship at University College is attached to the professorship.

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Roger Dobson talks to Gerard Elias, QC, about a harrowing year's work

'We cannot tolerate abuse of children'

Gerard Elias was preparing for a family holiday in France when the call came. The judicial inquiry into abuse of children in care in North Wales was being set up and the Treasury Solicitor, the head of the government legal service, wanted to know whether the QC, a veteran of 130 or so murder trials, would act as senior counsel. "I had no hesitation," he says. "My criminal background had been in criminal work and I had no major inquiry experience, but it was made clear that they wanted someone who could handle the scale of the work... the Government was asking me to take on an inquiry that had been invested with very great powers. It was impossible to turn down."

He was initially sceptical about the volume of complaints, a scepticism that has since been replaced by a passion for radically changing Britain's care system.

The inquiry, convened in Ewloe, near Mold, was set up two years ago, under the chairmanship of the former Family Division judge Sir Ronald Waterhouse, to look at years of allegations about sexual and physical abuse of children in care in Gwynedd and Chwyd.

Mr Elias says: "The inquiry was so unlike any other because its remit was so broad. The *Bowbelle* inquiry (after the collision on the Thames in 1989 with the *Marchioness*) was concerned with why and how people had died - but the issue could be tied to an event on one day. But in our inquiry we were dealing with 85 children's homes, 12,000 children, several hundred allegations of abuse and a time frame of not one day but 23 years. There was a wall of evidence that never

stopped coming at you, right up to the last day."

His job and that of his team, Ernest Ryder, QC, and Gregory Trevorton-Jones, was to investigate and interrogate.

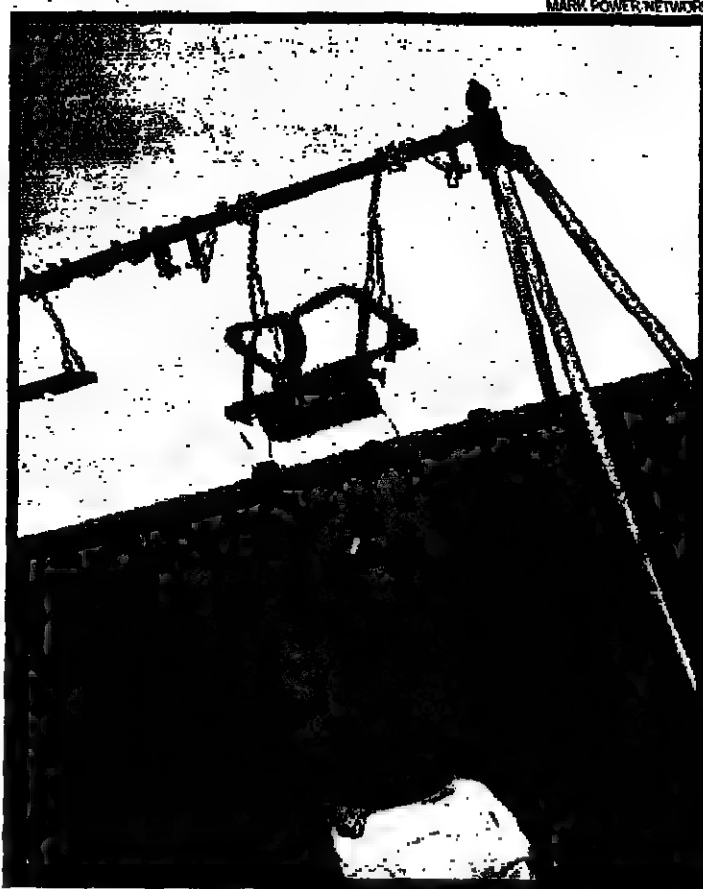
Mr Elias, who had just concluded a successful prosecution in the Sophie Hook murder trial, soon realised that his role would be a mammoth job. "The first few weeks were spent getting to grips with what was involved: how many files, how many children, how many homes, how many allegations, how many alleged abusers..."

Early on, the inquiry decided to create an investigative team of former police officers.

"The scale of the operation was enormous," Mr Elias says. "We had 9,500 files brought to us and the statements of 2,500 children who had been seen during an earlier police investigation. We went through much of this material and 650 were identified as potential complainants to be interviewed by the investigative team. We also carried out interviews based on a random selection of files."

While the team was reading up on 23 years of North Wales child care, the publicity surrounding the tribunal prompted people to come forward. The roles played by the police, the Welsh Office, social service managers and the insurers also had to be investigated. Then there was the question of the existence or not of organised paedophile rings and of the alleged involvement of well-known public figures and the question of whether or not there were still problems with the care system.

His highly charged opening speech revealed for the first time the extent of the abuse problem in



The child abuse allegations were worse than anyone had suspected

WHAT WILL THE MINISTER BE TOLD?

- The Waterhouse tribunal is due to make its recommendations to Ron Davies, the Secretary of State for Wales, at the end of the summer. The recommendations made to the tribunal by Mr Elias and his team in his closing speech included:
- An independent complaints system;
- A central vetting agency for staff;
- Independent inspections of homes;
- A new employment duty to report all complaints and for all employees to volunteer any knowledge they have.

North Wales - more than 250 former children in care were scheduled to give evidence.

"No civilised society may tolerate abuse of its children," he says. "The content, volume and consistency of statements made by complaints appears impressive. If they are accepted by the tribunal, they may compel the conclusion that children in care were abused physically or sexually on a scale which borders on wholesale exploitation."

The inquiry did have an effect on him. Cynicism about the volume of complaints gave way to surprise at the determination of people to come forward after so many years. "Maybe," he says, "it was because they at

last felt they had an opportunity to be listened to; something they had not had before."

What he and his team unearthed and what they heard in the 14 months of evidence-gathering led them to draw up a large number of recommendations for change in the care system.

Among reforms they suggest for the tribunal's consideration are independent inspections of children's homes. He says: "We feel passionately that there needs to be some independent inspection system for children in care. The present processes do not protect the child against an unwarranted move or pressure from others."

Payback time for accident victims

Bill Braithwaite, QC, praises the House of Lords for overturning a Court of Appeal decision

A campaign that has spanned two decades has at last achieved financial justice for accident victims. Until last week, plaintiffs in personal injury cases were expected to gamble with their financial settlement in order to finance the cost of future loss and care. The House of Lords has just overturned a Court of Appeal decision by ruling that lump sum compensation payments should be based on a rate of return of 2.5 to 3 per cent. Before this decision, courts calculated settlements on a rate of return of 4.5 per cent, which judges decided could be achieved if the plaintiff invested in equities. It means that damages awards in hundreds of cases where courts take account of future losses will be increased - by 40 per cent in the biggest awards.

I spend my life travelling the country seeing people who have been severely injured and it is depressing that there are many aspects of our compensation system that are unsatisfactory. Today we are one huge step closer to delivering justice to accident victims.

Victims such as Margaret Westmoquette, whose life was shattered when an off-duty police officer, driving with extreme recklessness, crashed into the car she was driving. Her husband, an Anglican vicar, who was sitting beside her, died instantly. She was almost dead, yet despite losing both legs, an arm and suffering burns to 40 per cent of her body, she pulled through.

For Mrs Westmoquette, this was just the start of a four-year legal struggle for the financial compensation that would allow her to rebuild her life and continue to care for her two children. The battle ended this year in a London courtroom when she won £1.5 million. Thanks to the Lords, the settlement will be increased when her case goes to the appeal court later this year. The judgment is a victory for Mrs Westmoquette and thousands of accident victims whose cases have yet to be settled. Formerly, the money, on which victims depend, was to be gambled on the equity market.

The loss of even a small part of a plaintiff's lump sum could spell disaster. If, for example, it has been carefully calculated that £100,000 is needed each year to pay for care, that requirement is fixed. A diminution of the capital could mean any of the catastrophic effects that shortage of money could have on a paralysed or brain-damaged individual.

The broader picture reveals that we still have a long way to go in settling personal injury cases in a way that does not humiliate and torment the victims.

Since being discharged from hospital, Mrs Westmoquette has endured being housed in a guest house where inappropriate facilities forced her to eat in a public bar, despite her horrendous injuries;

living for months in a council house without a bath or shower and fighting defence solicitors who would not even admit that the police officer at the wheel was responsible for the accident, thus drawing out the whole legal process.

Finally, the case was brought to court. Presided over by a judge who showed great humanity towards the plaintiff, Mrs Westmoquette sat impassively while the insurer's barrister argued over every pound and penny. Her teenage children were not the only ones to look embarrassed when counsel suggested she would be saving money on nights now that she had no legs.

A popular view is that defects in the personal injury litigation system are caused by the lawyers and that if the courts were allowed to manage the litigation, everything would run smoothly. My experience is that court management of litigation is poor. I am not criticising the judges but I am criticising the system.

So what is the alternative and how can we manage without the courts?

On five separate occasions over the past 15 months, solicitors representing soldiers who have been injured during their employment by the Army, have arranged a round-table consultation with the Treasury solicitors who represent the Ministry of Defence. Each side has gradually come to realise that the matter is being dealt with responsibly by the other, and that has had a significant effect on the way in which the claims are handled. The element of goodwill combined with a realistic approach has demonstrated that it is quite possible to agree a settlement without recourse to the courts.

Before proceedings are ever commenced, I firmly believe that there should be an early discussion of issues on the basis that, if agreement is not possible, arbitration could be the solution of choice.

There have been all sorts of suggestions over the past couple of years as to how we could make things better. I believe that the remedy lies in the hands of good practitioners. The time has come for us to question the court system and work together to create our own. Only then will people such as Mrs Westmoquette be spared the humiliating process of sitting in a public court while be-wigged officials argue over every penny. Meanwhile, we should be grateful for small mercies and applaud the House of Lords for a decision that goes a long way to delivering justice to accident victims.

● The author practises exclusively in personal injury litigation.



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To apply, please send your CV to: Alison Clarke, Human Resources, Butterworths Ltd, Halsbury House, 35 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1EL. Closing date: 31 July 1998. We have a no agency policy.

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For further information in complete confidence please contact our advising consultant, Yvonne Smyth at ZMB, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential to 0171 523 3838. E-mail: yvonne.smyth@zmbgroup.com. ZMB, a Zank Group Company.



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Revenue warning over new tax regime

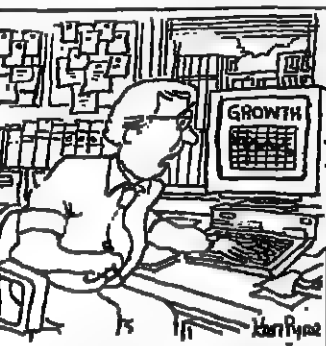
A WARNING that the Inland Revenue will take a tough line on self-assessment for companies has come from Pannell Kerr Forster, the chartered accountant.

The new regime was introduced this month and Sheila Sullivan, a tax expert at Pannell, says the Revenue is preparing to launch more investigations and will examine material in more detail.

She says: "Just as the onus is now on individuals to calculate their tax, corporate taxpayers will also be solely responsible for assessing their tax correctly. It is vital that companies take a good look at their systems and put their house in order in advance of a Revenue audit."

The Revenue will deploy up to 2,000 more staff to counter tax evasion and avoidance. Steps that can be taken to avoid trouble include:

- Try to review your tax affairs in the way the Revenue would.
- Ensure that you have properly documented procedures for analysing expenditure into its component parts for tax purposes.
- Identify any areas of weakness where systems and procedures could come under attack from the authorities.
- Be sure that your arguments can be defended.
- Make sure that the procedures laid down are followed by staff.



"Having your own business certainly keeps you young - you're never fully grown!"

Sun shines on the innovators

Sally Watts on how a fresh approach to finance and work practices helped two small businesses to prosper

The success of a long-range weather forecasting business, launched with £90 capital, and a small manufacturer of agricultural machinery that has increased production by 12 per cent after introducing flatter management, show how innovative products and practices can enhance a small firm's prospects.

Both companies took part in workshops at a three-day London conference on Technology Transfer and Innovation in Small Firms. This biennial event - the fourth - is run by the Government-funded Teaching Company Directorate and includes papers by people in industry, education and government worldwide.

Using £90 of capital, Piers Corby started Weather Action in 1991 to provide relatively detailed forecasts up to 11 months in advance. As a scientist, he had researched a method of preparing long-range forecasts and forecast a market among businesses dependent on weather conditions.

Clients include insurance companies, gas and electricity suppliers, clothing retailers and supermarkets concerned about perishable produce.

Two years ago the firm obtained a £100,000 NatWest loan.

through the small firms' loan guarantee scheme, to prepare for business development after featuring in BBC Television's QED programme. Before approving the loan, NatWest called in The Innovation Partnership, a small independent company in Manchester, which assesses businesses for banks and venture capitalists, providing them with non-financial analysis.

"I was satisfied that the business had commercial merit," said Nigel Woodruff, a director.

Weather Action Ltd, of Southwark, South London, employs the equivalent of 15 full-time staff and is targeting £1 million turnover by 2000. Last October the company was floated on the Stock Exchange.

Melwyn Wallis, the commercial director, says: "There is increasing interest from the City because the weather impacts on equities and commodities markets." Mr Wallis, Mr Woodruff and Stuart Ager, of NatWest Innovation and Growth Unit, took part in a workshop on financing innovation.

Mr Wallis adds that the firm hopes eventually to provide a worldwide service. Meanwhile, a research assistant is working on El Niño.

At a workshop on recognising the need for innovation in small



George Fleming has seen production increase 12 per cent this year

firms, George Fleming described how flattening hierarchies and eliminating a layer of management had resulted in better business and had led to a highly motivated, proactive workforce with less absenteeism.

His company, Fleming Agri-Products Ltd, makes agricultural machinery on an industrial estate in Londonderry.

Mr Fleming said: "In 1997, from the outside looking in, we were quite a successful company."

But inside it was a different story: there was pressure from customers, pressure on production staff and on managers.

Working with Ulster Business School and other agencies gave him the idea of innovating. Instead of one large unit, he set up several sections, each consisting of six or seven people with a team leader; these were given staff training. "Just calling them team leaders isn't enough."

He also encouraged better customer focus, identifying what clients wanted, improving customer-staff relations and reacting efficiently to requirements.

"Start one idea at a time, let it grow, get it accepted before starting another. We see our business now as a journey that is just beginning and will not end."

Weather Action: 0171-922 8844. Fleming Agri-Products: 01504 342637. Innovation Partnership: 0161-832 3862. Teaching Company Directorate: 01367 245200.

Tecs pledge £2.5m start-up funding

By BRIAN COLLETT

A FUND of £2.5 million to provide help for start-up businesses has been promised by London's seven training and enterprise councils to compensate for lost government money.

An £11 million allocation over three years from the single regeneration budget, specifically to allow the Tecs to support start-ups, ran out in March.

Funding was not renewed but was directed instead to priority areas to provide help for various social projects.

The decision meant that no dedicated government finance for start-ups would be available in 1998-99 in London, which produces 50,000 to 60,000 new businesses a year.

The training and enterprise councils are guaranteeing the £2.5 million in the current financial year for services that include business planning guidance, in addition to raising awareness of self-employment and support for women, ethnic minorities and other groups.

The funds for start-up businesses will come from reserves, profitable projects and large companies that give cash or services in kind. Judith Rutherford, the London Tecs Council director, said: "There is a clear funding gap which, if not resolved, will stunt future development of small business in London."

"This has implications not just for the potential self-employed, but for the city's economy."

"For example, 10,000 jobs have been saved or created by the businesses started with Tecs' assistance during the past three years."

"Tecs feel there is everything to be gained by keeping a start-up service on the go, however minimal."

"At the same time they will continue to advocate proposals for a comprehensive small business service that will form part of London's economic strategy."

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New chairman backs Mayfair Agreement as Cardiff and Swansea bid to join Premiership

Welsh clubs provide first test for Baister

By DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE bushfires that have characterised English rugby over the past two years may have been dampened by the change of management that took place at the Rugby Football Union's (RFU) annual meeting on Sunday, but they are by no means over. As Brian Baister, the new chairman of the management board, moved through the Twickenham departments yesterday, his first headache arrived in the shape of a first-division fixture list embracing two Welsh clubs.

Cardiff and Swansea, who have been at loggerheads with the Welsh Rugby Union, both appear in a putative fixture schedule prepared by the leading English clubs before the vote at the National Exhibition Centre that swept Cliff Brittle

from power. They may be friendly fixtures, but it is only a short step to a first-division table that records their success and is the last thing that the new administration — which emphasised its opposition yesterday — needs.

The altered political perspective has placed a huge responsibility upon the Allied Dunbar Premiership clubs to behave with a maturity that they have not always shown. In effect, the 865 clubs that voted to end 30 months of political infighting have told the senior clubs that they believe Baister is someone with whom they can do business; it is up to the clubs to show that this is so.

Yet as delegates left Birmingham on Sunday evening, many in a mood of euphoria and optimism, one leading club representative suggested that Baister's success had made it harder for the clubs

to determine their next course of action. In his view, the time had come to force the issue over links with Welsh and French clubs and pull the rug from under the European Cup as it now exists.

Such a course of action would be disastrous, and would throw the ball back into the court of the discredited Brittle. Fran Cotton, his chief lieutenant, and their pressure body, the Reform Group, still holds a mandate to call another special general meeting, which could accuse the RFU of bringing the game into disrepute in its handling of the transition from amateurism to professionalism and would welcome any further excuse to belabour the clubs.

If ever there was a time for Tom Walkinshaw, the Gloucester owner and leader of the club negotiating team that brought in the Mayfair Agreement

between the clubs and the RFU in May, Keith Barwell (Northampton), Peter Wheeler (Leicester) and their ilk to muzzle their recalcitrant colleagues, notably from Newcastle and Harlequins, it is now, however imperfect the agreement that is designed to stand for seven years and that Baister is pledged to support.

The Mayfair Agreement discourages cross-border competitions that do not have the approval of governing bodies, but Cardiff and Swansea are expected to confirm tomorrow their desire to join the Premiership; it has also been suggested that Cardiff could withdraw from European competition next season, with the possibility of a ripple effect spreading to French clubs and thereby destroying the tournament.

In the present climate, that would be the worst possible scenario for Baister to begin his tenure in office, which he recognised yesterday. "The RFU will directly oppose any fixtures that would affect and interrupt the Premiership programme," he said.

"We expect to see a fixture list for all Premier games available for approval this week and anticipate that this will be in line with the structured season agreed between the clubs and the RFU."

Baister knows he must also talk to those who opposed his election: "People in the Reform Group have campaigned behind the words openness, honesty and integrity," he said. "I hope they practise what they preach. The possibility of a sign hangs over us. I have a few weeks to demonstrate I am an open-minded, honest broker with their concerns in mind."

Baister stands, and could yet fall, with the Mayfair Agreement and he will know more of the clubs' attitudes when he holds his first management board meeting on Thursday. "The governing body should be an enabling body that allows us to thrive and prosper, not to be frightened that we might come up with some good ideas," Wheeler said. For all his sympathy with clubs such as Cardiff, Wheeler would appreciate the incongruity of an English fixture list that could begin with a game between the champions, Newcastle, and Welsh opponents.

This has to be the season in which the English clubs show that all is healthy in their own backyard, that their development programmes are in place and that they can work with the governing body. "English clubs need to be a catalyst to sort out the differences between the home unions," Baister said. They could also plunge the English game back into chaos.

CRICKET

Bore draw fails to lift South Africa spirits after loss of Klusener

By RICHARD HOBSON

DERBY (final day of three): Derbyshire drew with the South Africans

LANCE KLUSENER will not be rejoining the South Africa tour, it was confirmed yesterday. The foot problem that restricted him to 17 overs in the third Test against England at Old Trafford was diagnosed as tendinitis in the tendon flexing the big toe. Rest is no cure and he will undergo surgery in Pretoria today.

With Shaun Pollock demonstrating his fitness against Derbyshire, South Africa have decided not to send for a replacement. Klusener, who flew home last week but had hoped to return to play in the fourth Test at Trent Bridge on Thursday, will also miss the Commonwealth Games in

Kuala Lumpur. Development off the field proved far more interesting than the cricket on it at Derby. Adam Bacher, the South African's twelfth man, encapsulated the way proceedings drifted towards a conclusion long since recognised as inevitable by dragging a "coffin" case on to the outfield to relieve the tedium.

As well as the saga of Klusener, South Africa suffered another distraction when Daryll Cullinan was hit on the end of a finger during morning fielding drill. X-rays revealed no damage and Cullinan returned to bowl some friendly, flighted spin in the afternoon.

The game finished at 5.21pm, the earliest opportunity, with Matthew Cassar 91 not out in Derbyshire's second

innings of 337 for four. Such was the eventual domination of bat over ball on a benign pitch that it became hard to recall that, at one stage in the game, the touring side had restricted Derbyshire to 94 for six first time around.

Michael Slater was named man of the match for the way he retrieved that situation, and the Australia batsman had every reason to expect a second century as he extended his opening partnership with Michael May to 143. On 63, however, he edged an attempted cut off Adams to Boucher and it was May, instead, who went on to greater things.

To no beholder can May be an aesthetic batsman. On 25 he was dropped by Boucher off Pollock and throughout made liberal use of the inside edge to fine leg. Like Jim Yardley, who kept third man well employed while batting for Worcestershire and Northamptonshire in the Seventies, May must be a considerable irritation to bowlers.

Good luck to him. He boasts a career average of around 40 so he can say that his method is working. Indeed, there was nothing wrong with the pull through mid-wicket off Ntini that took him to 101 in 233 minutes, and his tally of runs against touring teams to 450 in six innings. Next ball, he offered a thin nick to a wide ball that, this time, Boucher managed to hold.

Pollock restricted himself to a single morning spell, which says something for South Africa's priorities. Derbyshire, at least, had the incentive of £11,000 put up by the match sponsor to win the game. But they showed no inclination to accelerate as Cassar, driving sweetly, and Spence settled for time in the middle.

DERBYSHIRE: First innings 337 (M J Slater 101, M R May 63, D J Cullinan 91, M E Cassar not out, T A Twiss not out, B J Spence not out, Extras 10 (3 to 4, no 5), Total 4 wickets, 4-294.

BOWLING: Pollock 19-9-35-0, Ntini 17-1-60-1, Cronje 5-1-19-0, Hayward 11-0-41-0, Adams 29-4-71-1, Kallis 15-5-43-1, Cullinan 13-4-7-0.

SOUTH AFRICANS: First innings 453 for 8 dec (M J Slater 101, D J Cullinan 91, M E Cassar not out, T A Twiss not out, Extras 10 (3 to 4, no 5), Total 4 wickets, 4-294.

Umpires: B Dudson and J H Harris.



May pulls a shot to the boundary during his century on the final day against the South Africans at Derby

Sussex make light of cruel weather

By PAT GIBSON

THERE are those who believe that playing floodlit cricket in England is like staging ice-hockey in the Sahara or camel racing in Alaska. Sussex's pioneering efforts in the Axa League are beginning to suggest that they are right.

They caught a cold with their first venture when only 2,500 people turned up to see them play Lancashire on a chilly night in April, but they were confident that they would make up the loss against Middlesex last night after one of the warmest days of the summer on the South Coast.

Then, an hour into the game, the stormclouds rolled in from the sea, the thunder rumbled and soon the rain came down to wreck their hopes of a capacity crowd of 6,000.

Sussex also have a problem with the residents of the flats overlooking the ground, who are not too keen on the idea either. The club's application to install permanent floodlights at a cost of £180,000 goes before Brighton and Hove Council on August 4.

The other issue last night was whether the lights would be necessary at all after Middlesex, joint leaders before the weekend, followed their defeat by bottom-of-the-table Surrey 24 hours earlier with another abysmal batting display.

They were again without Mark Ramprakash, their captain, who was confined to bed with tonsillitis on the day before the England team gathers for the fourth Test at Trent Bridge. "The England management is fully aware of Mark's ailment and we are keeping them up to date," Ian Gould, the Middlesex coach, said.

Middlesex made a wretched start when Langer and Brown were run out inside the first six overs by two magnificent pieces of fielding by Adams and Bevan. Martin-Jenkins kept the pressure on by taking the wicket of Weekes in an impressive eight-over spell that cost only 12 runs and though Shah and Nash had taken Middlesex to 69 for three when the rain came they went from bad to worse when play resumed.

Shah and Nash were out to successive balls from Bevan before Adams ran through the tail, taking five for 16.

Halsall's batting reigns on matting

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

RICHARD HALSALL propelled the England ECB XI to their first win of the European amateur championships in The Hague yesterday with a powerful 130 that left Denmark demoralised and beaten by 128 runs.

Halsall, the Eastbourne captain, arrived at the crease after Soren Sorensen had reduced England to 31 for three. Despite failing to reach double figures against Ireland and Scotland and lacking practice on the matting wickets, he took only 70 balls to reach his half-century before accelerating to three figures from another 24.

When he was eighth out, Halsall had faced only 109 balls, striking eight sixes among his 17 boundaries. England were dismissed for 244, two deliveries short of their 50 overs, but with Halsall taking two wickets as well, Denmark were unable to mount a challenge and subsided to 116 all out. The Danes, who were locked in their dressing room for 40 minutes by Ole Mortensen, their coach and former Derbyshire bowler, after the

game, look likely to finish bottom of the round-robin stage, forcing them into a play-off against the best of the second division teams, probably Germany.

The day-night Axa League game at Old Trafford between fifth-placed Lancashire and Worcestershire, standing tenth, began almost two hours late as a 25 overs-a-side match because of heavy rain. Devon Malcolm, the former England fast bowler, proved he is still quicker than the rest, even if he is no longer wanted by his country. Malcolm outdid Franklyn Rose, his Northamptonshire colleague, as well as Courtney Walsh, Nixon McLean, Andy Caddick and Ed Giddins, registering 88mph on the same radar gun that has been used in recent Test matches.

Rose was timed at the same speed as Malcolm in the event organised as part of Walsh's testimonial year at Gloucestershire, but the former Derbyshire bowler scooped the £750 Waterford Crystal prize by prevailing in a bowl-off, retaining his pace and also managing to hit the wickets.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Struggling Huddersfield remove Schofield as coach

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

GARRY SCHOFIELD yesterday became the first and least surprising coaching casualty in the JJB Super League this year when Huddersfield Giants, the bottom-placed club, relieved him of the role, but asked him to remain on the playing roster.

Schofield, eight months into a three-year contract, has no intention of playing for Huddersfield, while he considers his legal position. He has appeared as a substitute twice this season, but found that coaching and playing were incompatible. At 33, the former Great Britain captain has no particular wish to return to a full-time playing career.

Phil Veivers, the Australian player-assistant coach, took charge at training yesterday as Huddersfield prepared for their roadshow game against Hull Sharks at Gateshead on

Friday. The club wants to install a director of rugby, to oversee all coaching and management duties, and felt that Schofield could be more usefully employed on the pitch.

Andy Goodway, the Great Britain coach and assistant to John Monie at Wigan Warriors, and Shaun McKee, who is out of contract at St Helens at the end of the season, are possible candidates as Huddersfield, with only two wins in 13 Super League matches, look to arrest their decline.

With no relegation from Super League this year, the situation whereby seven coaches were dismissed in the first three months of last season has been avoided.

Schofield was always vulnerable as Huddersfield struggled with the transition from the first division, although he had insisted that he

was not under pressure at board level. Schofield's appointment followed the dismissal of Steve Ferris, who had led Huddersfield into the Super League and to the divisional premiership title, and relied on the shaky theory that distinguished players make fine coaches. Not that Schofield was given enough time to prove it either way.

"Garry has had to contend with an horrendous injury list and we do not apportion blame to him," Les Coulter, the Huddersfield chief executive, said.

Cardiff rugby union club has given its formal support to the Cardiff Super League franchise application, while Barry Maranta, the former London Broncos owner, is stepping up Swansea's bid. Both stage Super League matches this weekend.

BOWLS

Selectors prepare Wilson for victory

By DAVID RHYS JONES

KELLY WILSON, from Laurieston, won the British Isles women's Under-25 championship at Royal Leamington Spa when she beat Paula Montgomery, of Ireland, 21-19, in an exciting final.

When Wilson, 23, was left out of the Scotland team for the morning match with Ireland, to enable her to prepare for the singles, she wondered whether the selectors had made the right decision.

"I was happier when they told me I could have a roll-up in the morning, so I challenged my dad, Jack, and beat him on an adjoining green," she said.

After she defeated Cheryl Northall, the English junior champion, from Torquay, 21-2, in the semi-finals, another swift match appeared on the cards when Wilson

opened up an 11-1 lead over Montgomery. The Irish champion then clawed her way back, taking the lead at 16-14, and was holding a match life on the penultimate end when Wilson drew two shots to lead 20-19.

Montgomery was also holding shot on the next end when Wilson fired it out with an accurate drive. The Irish player's attempt to save was a few inches out.

Earlier, England had regained the British junior team title, even though they lost heavily — and unexpectedly — to Wales in the final match of the series. England, Scotland and Wales finished level with two wins in three matches, but England's superior shots credit of 61 saw them through, 19 shots ahead of the Scots, with Wales in third place.

FOOTBALL

Dalglish rejects criticism of new signing Guivarc'h

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

KENNY DALGLISH, the Newcastle United manager, yesterday backed his decision to spend £35 million on Stéphane Guivarc'h, the France striker who failed to contribute a single goal to his country's World Cup triumph.

Dalglish signed the former Auxerre striker before he was widely criticised for his woeful finishing during the host nation's triumphant campaign. Guivarc'h missed a number of chances, particularly during the one-sided final against Brazil, but Dalglish has little doubt that he has recruited a centre forward of quality.

The Newcastle manager was in Paris to watch the final, when the striker's movement and strong running did cause Brazil's defence problems, and was quick to allay any worries Newcastle supporters might

have. "When was the last time there was a World Cup winner playing for this club? And when was the last time someone who scored 60 goals in his previous two seasons came to this club?" Dalglish asked.

"If you are able to score over 60 goals in French football over two years it is not a bad start. I only saw him live in the final but obviously I saw him in the other French games on television and I've no worries over him."

Ronaldo will miss Internazionale's opening Serie A match in September through suspension, it was announced yesterday. The Brazil striker criticised the referee after Inter were beaten by eventual champions Juventus in an important league game in April.

Ronaldo was initially dealt a two-match ban, which was

lifted later on a technicality. After a review of the latter decision, the league has now decided to reinstate a one-game penalty.

Arsenal are close to gaining approval to move their European Cup Champions' League games this season from Highbury to Wembley in a bid to double crowd attendances. Uefa, the European governing body, has backed the plan that must now receive support from the FA in order to go ahead.

The switch would mean attendances could be doubled for the European matches, for which Arsenal hope they would attract more than 70,000. Highbury's capacity for the Champions' League would be only 34,000, a figure reduced because of higher perimeter advertising boards for such games.

Black pigs for breakfast

1000



ATHLETICS 40

Moorcroft puts forward plans for reform

SPORT

TUESDAY JULY 21 1998

RUGBY UNION 41

Baister faces challenge from clubs over fixtures



Open hero closes amateur chapter

Pros outweigh the cons for climbing Rose

BY JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

JUSTIN ROSE, who will be 18 on Thursday of next week, duly turned professional yesterday after his stunning fourth place in the Open Championship and will travel to Holland this week to compete in the Dutch Open. His performance at Royal Birkdale was the best by an amateur for nearly 50 years and the best by a 17-year-old since Young Tom Morris won the title at that tender age in 1868.

Yesterday was a heady day not only for Justin but for Ken and Annie, his father and mother, and Margaret, his sister, as well. They were up at 5am, flew from Manchester on the 8.10am flight to Heathrow and were met at the airport by a posse of photographers and television crews. When they reached their home in Hook, Hampshire, at midday there were more photographers and more television crews waiting.

Looking as relaxed in the glare of the media spotlight as he had on the treacherous fairways of Birkdale, Rose was keen to look forward as well as back. "Next week will be a bigger week for me," he said. "I think I would have turned professional anyhow, because I have been tempted for a while, and this week was going to help me make my decision. The way it went, I would be silly not to turn pro. I have just got to try and forget the hype now."

As refreshing as that

sounds, there is some serious business to be done. Ken Rose will continue to look after his son's golf while the business side will be taken care of by Carnegie Sports Management, a Glasgow-based company that also looks after Sam Torrance.

In the aftermath of Rose's success it was inevitable that comparisons would be made between him and Tiger Woods. "The reaction to Justin by the crowds was almost one of relief," Sir Michael Bonallack, secretary of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club, said. "They seemed to be saying: 'Here is someone to match Tiger Woods, at last.'"

Headed words for a teenager who only just won the McEvoy Trophy for juniors in April, and for all the similarities between Rose and Woods there is one slight difference. Woods turned professional to a worldwide fanfare and the not insignificant matter of contracts worth \$43 million (about £27 million). Nike contracted to pay him \$8 million over five years, Titleist, the golf equipment manufacturer, \$3 million over the same period of time. Rose is hardly less gilded, but early re-

ports suggest that Carnegie have in the pipeline for him a deal worth £500,000 - barely one hundredth of Woods's figure. "Cobra, Titleist and Reebok have helped him with kit within the amateur regulations and they are the first people we look to," Ken Rose said. "But Justin is a moving target now. Anyway, I don't know anything about contracts. I can honestly say that I have not had one single cent proposed to us yet. I am sure Carnegie are on the case."

Woods was 20 when he joined the ranks of paid golfers. He had just won his third US Amateur championship in succession, had competed in two Opens and been a member of the US Walker Cup team that was defeated by Great Britain and Ireland in 1995. Rose has played in one Walker Cup, won the St Andrews Links Trophy and represented England at senior level.

There were many voices urging him to delay becoming a professional on the grounds that he was too young and that many amateur titles were still available to him, but Bonallack, once a distinguished amateur himself, said: "Why wait? He has been playing top-class golf for almost two years. I do not know how much more he could learn as an amateur."

For Rose, the world is his oyster. What he has to do is make sure that it does not turn upside down. He has set himself a target of winning at least £50,000 from the seven tournaments in which he will compete this year and thus guarantee his presence on the European Tour in 1999. He may enter the Scandinavian Masters in Stockholm next week and the European Open, near Dublin, in the middle of next month.

His success last week is no guarantee that what seemed so easy in Lancashire can be repeated in such places. Clear in the memory is the performance of Gordon Sherry, who was such a hero as an amateur in the 1995 Open, turned professional in 1996 and is now struggling on the Challenge Tour. Warren Bennett is another gifted amateur who has failed to make an impression as a professional.

These are just some of the challenges Rose will face in the coming months, but as he does so he should be buoyed by the enormous support he generated last week. If that enthusiasm counts for anything, then Rose is already an Open champion.



Van Bon, the stage winner, follows Hinault's advice to the letter by refreshing himself with mineral water during the ninth stage yesterday

Tour braced for more drugs problems

FROM JEREMY WHITTLE IN PAU

THE riders in the Tour de France arrived at the foot of the Pyrenees yesterday for the first mountain stages of the race this year with the mounting wave of doping revelations threatening to engulf the event.

As many French newspapers continued to publish the damning opinions of sports doctors and even of Jacques Chirac, the French President, the admission of drug abuse by Alain Vandenbosch, a former Belgian national champion, added to the tainted atmosphere of the race.

"I took EPO [a human growth hormone] when I was with the TVM team," Vandenbosch said, "just like other riders in the team and just like other riders in other teams. Most of the riders were experimenting with it."

"We were never obliged to," Vandenbosch, who rode for TVM, the Dutch team, between 1990 and 1994, said, "but if you wanted to compete against the others, you had little choice."

TVM, whose Dutch sprinter Jeroen Blijlevens won the fourth stage of the Tour this

year, was linked to EPO abuse in March this year when the contents of one of their team cars, said to include ampoules of EPO, were impounded by French police in Reims.

Last night, Hein Verbruggen, president of the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI), world cycling's governing body, said that the UCI team may also risk expulsion from the Tour de France.

"This is not a decision for the UCI, but for the Société du Tour de France," Verbruggen said. He also revealed that the

Results 40

UCI have sent a letter to the Dutch cycling federation requesting an urgent investigation into the TVM case.

"It's shocking to me that with the Festina team, we've discovered a team that has carried out this abuse on such a large scale. That's what shocks me most of all," he said.

Even as the Tour organisation fought to limit the damage done to its reputation by the Festina affair, with their head of public relations, Bernard Hinault, the former

champion, asserting that "it is possible to win the Tour on mineral water", the spectre of doping hung over the yellow jersey itself.

Laurent Desbiens, who took over the race lead in the stage to Montauban on Sunday, tested positive for steroid abuse in 1996, as did the stage winner, Jacky Durand, of France, and the Casino team, Philippe Gaumont, the Cofidis rider and Desbiens' teammate, who was also one of the seven breakaways on Sunday, also tested positive in the same year.

While Desbiens defended his lead in the hot stage from Montauban to Pau yesterday, Jean-Marie Leblanc, the race director, fought to counter the remarks of Bernard Kouchner, the French secretary of state for health.

"We are all accomplices in this huge hypocrisy," Kouchner said in the *Journal du Dimanche*. "Everybody knows that doping reigns on the Tour de France."

But, with the Tour's top teams facing the prospect of further investigation, many of those in the race convoy are anticipating that the Pyrenean stage today, from Pau to Luchon, will be the "cleanest"

mountain stage of the modern era.

If, after the Festina affair, circumstances have imposed what amounts to a level playing field on the professional peloton, then the mountain stages to come may be among the most savage seen in the Tour for many years.

Yesterday, Jan Ullrich, the race favourite, was happy to let another breakaway group disappear into the heat haze, as far ahead of the field, the Pyrenean peaks rose menacingly out of the French Midi.

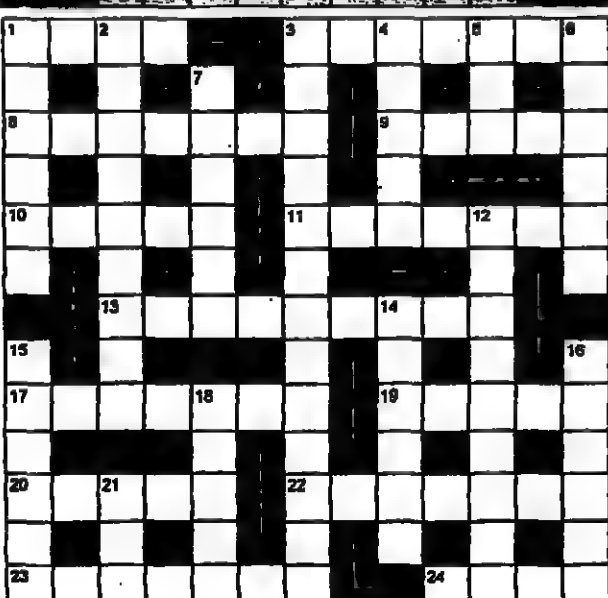
When the group of seven moved clear midway through yesterday afternoon, Ullrich and his Telekom team opted to maintain a safe, if not break-

neck tempo at the front of the race.

Ahead of them, Jens Voigt, of the GAN team, and Leon Van Bon, of the Rabobank team, were the most likely stage winners in the breakaway. As the group rode into Pau, Voigt led into the finishing straight but he could not prevent Van Bon, the bronze medal-winner in the 1997 world championships, from taking the first Tour stage win of his career.

Two riders withdrew as a result of the sweltering temperatures yesterday: Mario Cipollini, of Italy, who was a double stage-winner earlier in the Tour, and Tyler Hamilton, of the United States.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1463

- ACROSS
- Twilight (4)
 - Little tree (7)
 - Annunciation angel (7)
 - Leg joint (3)
 - Gusto: sudden effort (5)
 - Section of treaty: essay in paper (7)
 - 3 Am. plated mammal (9)
 - Cause to function (7)
 - View (through egg trees) (5)
 - Indifferent gesture (5)
 - Hoppy (Czech) lager (7)
 - Protection (7)
 - Fume escape hole (4)
- DOWN
- Assimilate (food): (book) summary (6)
 - Defeat, force to submit (9)
 - Mixed light/dark (egg hair) (4-3-5)
 - Industrial machinery (5)
 - Annoy (3)
 - Hansel's sister (6)
 - Sufferer: a dupe (6)
 - Type of jewellery: Collin's one (and.) (9)
 - Delightful (6)
 - Brags (6)
 - Poor antic room (6)
 - (German) acute guilt: remorse (5)
 - A grain: in which a body meet a body (Burns) (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 1462

ACROSS: 1 Precarious 9 Swollen 10 Gleam 11 Mock 12 Besotted 14 Abroad 15 Mascot 18 Optimist 20 Zinc 22 Hop in 23 Traipse 24 Repeatedly

DOWN: 2 Role 3 Convey 4 Regional 5 Overt 6 Semi-detached 7 Ask me another 8 Concur 13 Tasmania 16 Chippy 17 Tense 19 Top up 21 Pull

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O'Meara grateful for Holmes help

Phil Yates on the unsung hero of an historic Open triumph

Mark O'Meara and Martin Holmes had never crossed paths until last Saturday afternoon. When they did, their conversation was brief, but ultimately of crucial significance to the outcome of the Open Championship.

Trent, was a member of the gallery on the right of the treacherous 6th hole at Royal Birkdale, quietly enjoying the third-round play when O'Meara sliced his second shot into tall grass, perilously close to a bush. At this stage, the Masters champion was three over par and, unable to find his ball, he despondently walked some 70 yards or so back down the fairway to play another. Then his original

was found. An ironic cheer went up, but O'Meara continued to trudge away. Holmes, believing the ball to be out of play, picked it up and, thankfully for O'Meara, remained virtually rooted to the spot.

By this time, Jerry Higginbotham, O'Meara's alert caddy, realised that his employer had not used up the five minutes allowed to search for a ball and consequently shouted to O'Meara not to hit another ball. "The USGA [United States Golf Association] was on the phone, the

R and A was on the phone. It was like Watergate out there," O'Meara said.

Eventually, it was ruled that, as the ball had been discovered within the allotted five minutes, it was in play. A relieved O'Meara returned to the scene and, with the assistance of Holmes, dropped the ball as near as possible to the spot where it was unearthed. O'Meara was additionally fortunate in that, during the 15-minute spell it took for the ruling to be implemented, the

grass had been trampled, making for an appreciably better lie.

O'Meara was presented with a relatively simple pitch onto the green and, two puts later, he walked to the 7th tee glad to have escaped with nothing worse than a bogey five. Hitting his fourth shot from more than 230 yards away, would almost certainly have resulted in at least a six.

Thus, the twin vigilance of Holmes, first in finding the



O'Meara enjoyed some good fortune on his way to victory

ball, then remaining in the vicinity, undoubtedly helped O'Meara to hold aloft the Auld Claret Jug.

Of course, Severiano Ballesteros is remembered as the quintessential crowd-mingling Open champion. At Royal Lytham and St Anne's in 1979, when the swashbuckling Spaniard won the first of his three Open titles, he played an approach shot to the 16th green from a spectator car park.

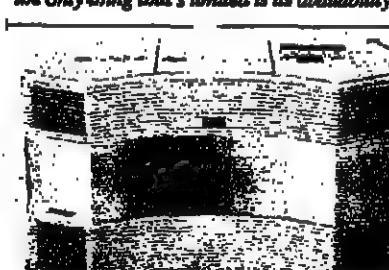
The paying public have not always been helpful, though. During the second round of the 1949 Open at Royal St George's, Harry Bradshaw pushed his drive into the rough on the par-four 5th and it came to rest in the bottom half of a broken bottle. The Irishman played the ball as it lay and it scuttled forward 25 yards. He made a double bogey and was eventually soundly beaten by Bobby Locke, of South Africa, in a 36-hole play-off.

In years to come, O'Meara will no doubt gain immense satisfaction from recalling his stirring win on the Lancashire coast. It is also fair to assume that Holmes will delight in relating the tale of his own involvement in that piece of golfing folklore.

Talent blossoms, page 42

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TUESDAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION



Yasmin is one of a growing number of British Asian women coerced into wedlock with strangers. Here she describes the bullying, emotional blackmail and imprisonment by members of her own family that took her from an independent teenage life in Luton to enforced marriage in Pakistan

The arrangement

She was in her wedding dress, crying, standing alongside a stranger, a man to whom she had never spoken. Inevitably, as the ceremony came to a close, she began thinking of what would come next: the consummation. Yasmin Ahmed was only 19 when she was forced to marry a total stranger in Pakistan – a country she felt she hardly knew. She had been confined to a house for more than a month before the ceremony and she desperately wanted to go home. But there was no way out.

"I just stood there in tears," she said. "We hadn't even met and yet I was supposed to be his wife. I always thought it would be the happiest day of my life, but I had never felt so alone."

Yasmin – not her real name – is one of a growing number of British-Asian Muslims being forced to marry against their will. As second- and third-generation Asians who have grown up in Britain, they are increasingly finding themselves at the centre of a clash between loyalty to family and the desire for choice.

But this clash is not simply one of intellectual and theological differences. According to women's groups and police, it has become a frontline where runaway brides are kidnapped by "bounty hunters" hired by their families, where police use supergrass resettlement tactics to help young women start new lives, and where government officials collude with brides to keep their husbands out of Britain.

It began for Yasmin two years ago when, as a wild teenager growing up in Luton, she rebelled against the traditional family life and left home. Like most runaways, she returned within two weeks, but by then her parents had decided that she was out of control.

"They had arranged a marriage to someone in Pakistan, near Mirpur, but I said no," she said. "Before I left home, I might have had some say in who they arranged, but when I returned it had already been settled. They showed me a picture of him, I said I didn't want to marry him. But it was too late."

Relentless pressure and emotional blackmail were applied to Yasmin by her parents and relatives. "They tell you you have been bad, and you are letting the family down and you will bring shame upon everyone if you break the arrangement. Eventually, you just buckle under the pressure."

It is a classic story, according to Asian women's groups, civil rights campaigners and community workers, who are witnessing a growing number of young Asians in turmoil. In some cases, pressure is enough to persuade daughters to go through with the marriage; in others, they are tricked into taking a "holiday" or visiting a sick relative; in a few, they are physically "helped" – perhaps drugged – on to aeroplanes.

Before Yasmin and her unwanted husband, Ajaz, could live together in England, they had to apply for a visa for him at the British High Commission in Islamabad. "I didn't want him to come, but I couldn't believe how easy it was for him," she said. "If any of the immigration officials had asked me, just once, whether the marriage was genuine and not forced I would have said: 'No. You shouldn't let him in.' But they didn't."

Yasmin returned to England, ostensibly to prepare for her husband's arrival, but she told her family she would seek a divorce as soon as possible. "I couldn't write to the High Commission – my family would have found out – but I got one of my relatives to write to them to stop Ajaz coming into the country. Then, six weeks ago, I heard they had let him in. I couldn't believe it."

In this respect at least, Yasmin's case is not typical. Officials contacted by *The Independent* in Islamabad said that they do try to interview women separately from their husbands and ask them whether they are happy with the marriage, and whether it was "real" or enforced.

"Once we get them alone, they are free to speak their minds, but even then, some are afraid to," said one official, who asked not to be named. "If they say they don't want their husband to go with them, we try to help them find grounds for refusal."

"But it is often difficult for them simply to say the marriage is not real, because the applicant is entitled to see those grounds. If the reason for refusal is a woman's opposition, then she could face being ostracised back in England for dishonouring her family. Sometimes it's heartbreaking. You want to help, but you can't."

In Islamabad and other Pakistani cities, the freedom of women to marry whom they choose has become a topic of anguished national debate. British women absorb values alien to the Pakistani community's traditions through schooling, media, work

and friendships. But in Pakistan, too, the arrival of satellite television and the prominence given to legal battles between parents and daughters over marriage have emboldened more and more women to assert their right to choose their partner.

"The situation here is no different from that facing Pakistani girls in the UK and other Western countries," says Amina Jeneang, a lawyer in the forefront of the struggle of Pakistani women for their rights. "The whole country seems to have nothing better to do than stop love marriages."

Traditionally, the fate of girls who married in defiance of their parents' wishes was grim – if they were caught. They were guilty of defiling the family's honour, a crime for which no penalty was considered too extreme. Even today there are cases, in remote villages, of the offending couple being strapped to a tree and stoned to death. When women speak of fearing death at their family's hands, the

of the age of majority (18 plus) has the right to choose her own husband. The judges decided two to one that an adult woman does have that right. But the lengthy judgement of one of the affirming judges, Justice Khalil-ur-Rehman Ramday, was so hedged about with ifs and buts that the message was seriously diluted.

Justice Ramday cited numerous holy Islamic texts pointing to the fact that any contact at all between men and women prior to marriage is morally wrong, that the whole concept of courtship is therefore equally sinful, and that, while a love marriage may not be illegal, all the steps leading up to it are forbidden. "Pre-nuptial and extramarital liaisons between men and women stand prohibited and banished in an Islamic set-up," he offered. "Any courtship or romantic affairs between a man and woman other than between ones married to each other are not permitted in Islam... making secret love-affairs and taking paramours is condemned and prohibited by Allah... Allah and His Prophet abhorred unchecked intermingling of the two sexes."

Grafting individualist values on to a conservative society will continue to be deeply contentious. When *The Independent* visited Amina Jeneang's office in Lahore last week there were half a dozen women waiting, all attempting to break out of oppressive marriages, or to avoid being married off against their will. But those who succeed in besting their families can find themselves adrift in a society where the individual, unsupported by a family, is desperately vulnerable. Husbands, for example, can divorce wives without giving a reason, and within three months the marriage is over. Women, unless a special clause has been inserted into the marriage contract, have no such right.

Shamshad Hussain, of the Keighley Women's Domestic Violence Forum, is on the frontline of attempts to save women from enforced marriages. She said: "Women come to us and say they are being sent on 'holiday' or they have been told to visit their grandmother who is dying, and they worry that there is an arranged marriage waiting for them. 'We advise them to go through with it if they have to, but to make a note of their new husband's visa application when they are interviewed at the High Commission in Islamabad. Then, when they get home, we tell them to write to the authorities telling them that the application is based on a forced marriage.'

"It is sad that we have to use what we have always viewed as racist legislation to keep these men out, but it is vital that we protect these women's basic human rights. Over the years, I reckon hundreds of unwanted husbands have been kept out like this."

It should be pointed out that most arranged marriages are not unwanted, and are at least as successful as many marriages of choice. Many Muslim men and women are given a choice over a number of partners, and many parents in Asian communities demand no more than that their children marry someone of the same religion.

The most vigorous enforcers of arranged marriages hail from the Mirpur district of north-east Pakistan – the area to which Yasmin was taken. And it was the area which Ajaz was determined to leave. When she heard that he was on his way to Britain, she ran away again and sought help from Philip Balmforth, a former police inspector who runs a West Yorkshire police programme for Asian runaways in Bradford, reasoning that if her husband did not find her, then a bounty hunter would.

Mr Balmforth regularly helps women to change their identities and settle down somewhere new. He speaks to employers, persuading them to erase personnel files and, where possible, to transfer the employee – complete with new name – to a new branch or office. "You have to forget your past and get a new identity, or they will hunt you down like a dog," said Yasmin. "The bounty hunters show no remorse. They just want the money, and there are more and more of them all the time."

"They use wide networks of friends and relatives in banks, post offices, large companies and government offices to trace you. If you don't change your name and run away, you have no chance."

But, for Yasmin, it has so far not come to that. Her parents have agreed to take her back without Ajaz, but he is here, and pressure is growing on Yasmin to act like a "proper" wife. So far, she has resisted. "I have told them I want a divorce, but I can't do anything for about a year," she said. "I can't relax until then, and it feels like a long way off. But I have to be determined. I have to be my own person."

So, comes the inevitable question, reluctantly posed: did she have to consummate the marriage? "Not at first," she replies. "I wouldn't. But his family put so much pressure on me that I had to do it eventually. And when I did, it felt like rape."

BY STEVE BOGGAN & PETER POPHAM

THE INDEPENDENT

Rise in forced marriages

From yesterday's Independent

fear may often be well grounded. In one case, a woman who had been returned to her family on the order of the Supreme Court after eloping was shot dead on the court steps by one of her relatives.

Emboldened by education and information, more and more young women are now standing up for the right to determine their own destiny. And the courts are tying themselves in knots trying to adjudicate on the question. They were recently called upon to decide the key question: whether a woman

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk
E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity

A world church

Sir: I wish your leader writer ("Why should the Church not get serious about sex?", 20 July) had read Clare Garner's reports about the Lambeth Conference on the news pages. There you would discover that the Conference involves 800 bishops of the Anglican Communion, and that they represent 80 million Anglicans worldwide. There is continuing explosive growth in the numbers who take Jesus as their saviour and lord. The overwhelming majority of those 80 million are black and live in the Two Thirds World: there are ten times more Anglicans in Nigeria than in the US, for example.

Consequently when the bishops focus on issues such as evangelism, international debt and relations with Islam they are dealing with the real decisions facing Anglicans. The bizarre problems of the small churches of Britain and the US attract sympathy but cannot be allowed to overshadow the real debates.

Incidentally, you appear to have overlooked the tactics of the pro-gay caucus among US Anglican bishops. Unlike the campaigners outside Canterbury Cathedral many of them are anxious not to have any resolution on gay priests or gay marriages debated by the conference. They are well aware that such a debate could only lead to an overwhelming and trenchant rejection of their position. I have recently returned from a pre-Lambeth gathering of bishops in which a senior African bishop expressed the view that if the Episcopal Church of the USA takes an official view in favour of gay priests and gay marriages, then the rest of the Anglican Communion should show it the door.

The Rev PADDY BENSON
Barnston, Merseyside

Teachers' grief

Sir: As a junior school headteacher, I regret that the Secretary of State has, as is usually the case, chosen the last week of the summer term to upset the apple cart with teachers ("Superteachers to get big pay rises", Independent on Sunday, 19 July). They will go off on holiday feeling that all the hard work they have put in over this last year has once again been unappreciated.

Likewise, the Department for Education and Employment chooses the month of July to issue all its consultation papers, thereby ensuring the minimal response from the profession.

I am not at all sure that the DfEE understands what schools need. The first thing is time - time for properly thought-out responses to new initiatives, time to discuss with staff carefully how to develop the best approaches, time to spend with children, discussing their work and progress in detail, which is very difficult with large classes, time to analyse what is happening in core subjects.

This term, I am losing a gifted young teacher. She feels she cannot have a life of her own because of the pressure of constant change, imposition of initiatives, and the feeling that she is not able to devote quality time to children. She would be a prime candidate for a position as an Advanced Skills Teacher but, as she pointed out, that just brings more tasks and less time.

What do I think? Well, I will tell you when I have finished reading the 18-inch pile of bureaucracy that has amassed on my desk since half-term. I always keep the one from David Blunkett about "Reducing the Bureaucratic Burden" on the top: it reminds me of what is important.

A.M. GUY
Kewick, Cumbria

Sir: The father of education, Socrates, argued convincingly against Thrasymachus that the doctor's art of healing would not be improved by financial reward; likewise, the art of ruling would not dispense better wisdom and



In the second of our series on Butlin's Somerset World at Minehead, children line up for a fancy dress competition. Like all photographs published in The Independent, this can be purchased by calling Readers' Photographs on 0171-293 2534 (subject to availability)

John Voss

justice. Surely no MP would admit to being more conscientious if offered performance-related pay. Why, then, inflict this gross insult on those who practise the art of teaching?

Instead, select and train teachers well. Pay them properly, as we do doctors and MPs.
ROBERT K. McKECHNIE
Sickmuth, Devon

Tsarist legacy

Sir: Your leading article (18 July) is right, that the world does not need a Russia dreaming of imperial glory. But you are wrong in claiming that "little changed" after the murder of the last tsar and the establishment of the Soviet regime.

Russia under Nicholas II, with all the survivals of feudalism, had opposition political parties, independent trade unions and newspapers, a rather radical parliament and a modern legal system. Its agriculture was on the level of the USA, industry rapidly approaching the West European level.

In the USSR there was total tyranny, no political liberties and practically no human rights. Its economy was not viable; agriculture was destroyed. The terror against the population reached a scope unprecedented in history.

No wonder many Russians look back at tsarist Russia as a paradise lost.
OLEG GORDIEVSKY
London WC2

Sir: Are not the "drugs tsar", "homelessness tsar", and now "NHS waiting lists tsar" badly named in view of the poor record of organisation and effectiveness of this century's "original" Tsar (and indeed his ultimate fate)? On the basis that Mussolini (at least made the trains run on time, might I

suggest the title "Duce" as more appropriate?
STEPHEN MORRIS
Neuport, Gwent

Blame for the Bug

Sir: It was not "bad programming" to use only the last two digits of the year: it was standard practice ("Clinton leads war on millennium bug", 15 July). Memory, RAM and disk, was dearer then and all programming was leaner on its usage of it. Although this saves on storage it hardly makes any difference to the effort required to produce a program - laziness is not in the picture here.

Programmers are at least as numerous as the rest of the population and always knew full well that 2000 followed 1999. Back in 1984, when I started to write software, we never dreamed that anything we wrote would still be around in 1994, let alone 1999. We

Sir: When coal pits can be counted on two hands, is it not strange that the number of coalfield workers far exceeds the several hundred thousands employed at nationalisation of the coal industry in 1947?

Barely a week passes without the media referring to these ghostly hangers of the country's coal. They include lawyers, accountants, psychologists, medical consultants and even teachers. A BBC radio interviewer recently asked a police spokesman for the reaction "at the coal face" to a chief constable's suggestion that a deficiency of men on the beat might be remedied by using private security staff.

I had believed that the nearest the police ever came to a coal face was in 1984-85, when

thought technology was moving fast!

What the computer companies are guilty of is not reacting earlier on the very smooth, gradual slope up to 1999. The alarm has been rung far too late.

Business is also to blame. Had no business users ever really spotted that they never keyed "19" when keying in a date? Would business have been interested in paying extra for the conversion required before they were caught in the headlines?
ADAM COOKE
London W14

Value of marriage

Sir: There are practical reasons for "tying the knot" ("Why bother to tie the knot", 13 July).

A wife has pension rights which a cohabiter does not. In my one-time role as a Citizens Advice Bureau volunteer, I encountered a

woman of 54 whose boyfriend had just died after a cohabitation of many years. His firm unusually agreed to pay her a widow's pension, but only part of the lump sum. So his failure to marry the woman he "loved" cost her £25,000. And she would not get a state widow's pension.

If a will does not exist, or is flawed, or cannot be found, intestacy law automatically protects a spouse, but not a cohabiter. It also protects the children of a marriage. A spouse has automatic rights to the family home, but a cohabiter does not. And if you cohabit with a divorcee, his ex may come out of the woodwork to contest his will when he dies.

For a man, cohabitation means cheap and convenient sex, with someone to iron your shirts, share the bills and clean the loo. The one disadvantage is that the mother of your children might refuse to grant you parental rights. But now it is

proposed to alter that, so that only women lose out.
W.J. HYDE
West Malling, Kent

No hot coals here

Sir: Glenda Cooper's comprehensive rubbishing of motivational training (Would you walk through fire for your boss?, 15 July) makes depressing reading for anyone connected with human resources management generally and the training and development industry in particular.

While the tone of the article was condescending and wickedly funny, it contained too many generalisations about training. However, we understand why Glenda Cooper might feel and write as she did.

As directors of a company specialising in outdoor development training we despair of trainers using techniques which mean participants can "end up injured, humiliated or falling out," or worse, as happened to the Eagle Star employees.

Even more galling is the naivety of managers who commission and pay for such absurdities under the name of training and development. Does no one ever ask to see course programme contents, or evaluate risk assessments and safety procedures in advance?

Are we alone in believing it is high time this segment of the training market should be subject to regulation, registration and professional oversight? We shall be writing shortly to Government, industry and training agencies to suggest how this might be done.

No one expects trainers to "walk on water" but suggesting that trainees should "hot-foot it across coals" is equally unreal.
JOHN SMITH
ANDY CARLEY
Directors, Response 2000 Ltd
Brentwood, Essex

Forced marriages

Sir: Your allegation that the abolition of the primary purpose rule in 1997 has led to an increase in forced marriages is based on erroneous statistics ("Huge rise in forced marriages", 20 July).

The 440 reports of reluctant spouses you note are related to the last five years, not the last 12 months. This radically changes the picture that you presented. Another important point is that all couples are interviewed separately, thus allowing anyone to make their true feelings known to the visa officer. It is completely wrong to equate arranged marriages with forced marriages, the latter being quite clearly unacceptable and in this country illegal.

If someone tells us, during a private interview, or by telephone, that they are being forced into a marriage, we give them details of organisations in the UK which can offer practical help and support. We run an information campaign telling people how to get this help. And we of course refuse visas where the UK partner is prepared to testify publicly that they are an unwilling party.

The Foreign Office does a lot to help British nationals, regardless of their ethnic origin, who find themselves forced into a marriage. There are limits to the help we can give, including those imposed on us by international law in relation to dual nationality. I welcome the attention you have given to this serious problem - the more so since it gives me this opportunity to set out how we can help.

LIZ SYMONS
Baroness Symons of Vernham
Dean
Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State
Foreign & Commonwealth Office
London SW1

Good causes clash

Sir: I have long felt the need for both a national and local register of special days and events. This would not only avoid clashes between campaigns but could also encourage joint ventures on projects, if people knew about them in time.

As 2000 approaches a plethora of extra activities and special campaigns is inevitable, with everyone jumping on the millennium bandwagon. A national and local register could help to focus attention on specific ideas and themes and allow small and large organisations the opportunity to work together for mutual benefit.

I co-run a costume hire and desktop publishing business and many of our customers are involved not only with schools, businesses, local government and charity campaigns but also organise conferences and open days. Although some campaigns are advertised and planned in advance many are just what happens to catch the local and national media interest and may not be the most deserving of attention. A database or register could overcome this problem.

ANNE HOLLES
Maidstone, Kent

America's friends

Sir: In your splendid editorial "Don't water down international justice" (17 July), you seem to have missed the point about America's objections to the International Criminal Court.

The main reason America did not want such an independent court is that most of its friends will probably be called up before it for violations of human rights and other sorts of inhuman behaviour. When one looks at those countries with oppressive regimes to which America sells arms, one finds that it isn't only the "pariah" states such as Libya, Iran and Iraq who are the nasties. Some of America's best friends have a dismal record.

The other reason America doesn't want the ICC is that it is designed to be independent. Anything America cannot control, America opposes.
A KEVORKIAN
London W1

IN BRIEF

What would today's hygienic food proponents make of that? Mrs E.A. TELFORD
Alton, Hampshire

Sir: I question Paul Valley's description of the Carthusian way of life as "the most demanding of all religious vocations" ("The calling", 17 July). What about the Christian parent bringing up three children alone on the fourteenth floor of a high-rise - with no weekly "companionable walk", never mind a shared religious attitude with those around? Is it not time we left behind this nonsense about a hierarchy of "vocations"? I would like to think the Carthusians would agree.
HANNAH WARD
Long Hamborough, Oxfordshire

Sir: I was amused by Virginia Ironside's recent article (Fussy Eaters, 15 July) and a letter (17 July) from J.J.S. Goss in support. I well remember my late father, 50-odd years ago, collecting mouldy pieces of cheese, melting them and happily eating the resulting greasy-yellow mess with mustard and bread. He had to prepare it himself, as my mother could not bear the look of it, but he lived a healthy 84 years.

they could hardly be accused of having "mucked-in" with the miners.
G.DOWNS-ROSE
Chesterfield, Derbyshire

Sir: I was amused by Virginia Ironside's recent article (Fussy Eaters, 15 July) and a letter (17 July) from J.J.S. Goss in support. I well remember my late father, 50-odd years ago, collecting mouldy pieces of cheese, melting them and happily eating the resulting greasy-yellow mess with mustard and bread. He had to prepare it himself, as my mother could not bear the look of it, but he lived a healthy 84 years.

My audition to replace Melvyn on Start the Week

LISTENING TO Melvyn Bragg's final Start the Week on Radio 4 yesterday, I was struck yet again by what a loss this man is going to be. A Renaissance man like Melvyn could start the week all by himself. Don't take my word for it. Take his.

Introducing a new book by Professor Richard Gregory yesterday, he said: "Well, Richard Gregory, this book is perfect for me - it's got physics, psychology, literature, painting, history in it..." The tragedy of Radio 4 is that it hasn't got nearly enough Renaissance listeners.

Still, things must move on, and preparations to find Melvyn's successor are already far advanced. I can say this with absolute confidence as I myself have been called to audition, and I have already got through to round two. They swore us to absolute silence on the mat-

ter when we all arrived, but as everyone knows, when a BBC person says that something is strictly off the record, they are really begging you to publicise it, so I feel no compunction in telling you what happened.

The people I was auditioned by all seemed to be either Scottish or women, and I got the impression that there are very few genuine English males left in the BBC... I sat down and waited until one of them asked me an intelligent question.

"You would like to chair Start the Week, then, I take it?" said someone. "No," I said. "But I would like to be asked to do it."

"What's the difference?" "If you don't know the difference," I said, turning a cold eye on the questioner, "I won't be inviting you on Start the Week."

"Right," said someone else hastily. "Now, so far Start the Week has acquired a solid following as an intellectual discussion of a kind seldom heard on British radio, a forum where people are not afraid to debate ideas, a kind of forum more usual in the French media, where intellectual is not a dirty word..."

"Hold on, hold on," I said. "Shall I translate for you? What you are trying to say is that Melvyn Bragg has turned this programme from an amiable magazine compiled by jolly uncle Richard Baker into a spily thrusting if perforce shallow bit of talk which nobody in their right mind would want to listen to first thing on a Monday. You are desperate to get Start the Week away from the early Monday morning slot and replace it with something more populist."

"However, this is one of those rare programmes that you can't move, because of its name. What you can

do is get rid of Melvyn and change it. You have been at your wits' end trying to think of ways of turning it into something a bit dumber. Finally, Tony Blair has let you off the hook. For reasons we can only guess at, he has offered Melvyn a peerage. Melvyn, for reasons we can only guess at, has accepted it. You have clutched gratefully at this straw and have come out saying that a man so closely tied to New Labour could not possibly be objective enough to chair a discussion on new trends in genetics and Renaissance studies. It's a pathetic excuse but it's an excuse..."

"Hold on," said one of the Scots. "Don't you agree that his close connection with New Labour might be a source of bias?" "Oh, for heaven's sake," I said, "why is it that the British think that

anyone with strong opinions is automatically debarré from discussing things? Would you rather that discussions were conducted by people who had no particular opinions? That would be exciting, wouldn't it? In any case, you must have known about Melvyn Bragg's New Left leanings long ago. Why wait till he got a peerage? If a peerage is what he was after, he is likely to be less ambitious and party political now that he has achieved it, isn't he?"

There was silence. Then a woman spoke. "Actually, it wasn't anything to do with his New Left leanings. We tend to think of New Left people as being a bit old-fashioned, but not undesirable. No, it was because of Arsenal."

"Melvyn is a fanatical Arsenal supporter." "Isn't it Spurs?" said another woman. "Whatever. Well, when he came in on a Monday, depending on whether they'd won or lost, he would either be really sunny, almost hyper, or way down and start being rude to people. It became unbearable after a while." "What team do you support, Mr. Kington?" said someone else. "Wrexham," I said. "Then you must be well used to disappointment by now," he said. "I am," I said. It was at this point that they felt it was a good moment to break it to me that I hadn't got the job. It was at that point I broke it to them that I didn't want it. We parted, mutually satisfied.

MILES KINGTON
The tragedy of Radio 4 is that it hasn't got nearly enough Renaissance listeners

"However, this is one of those rare programmes that you can't move, because of its name. What you can

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Transport policy takes a turn for the better

EVERYONE AGREES that traffic is one of the most pressing problems we face, and that it is slowly getting worse. Reducing traffic pollution and congestion is one of those apple pie and motherhood aims we all share. The trouble is, there are almost as many solutions floated as there are drivers on the M25. So has John Prescott really done the impossible? Has he managed to produce a White Paper that deserves the support of drivers, cyclists, pedestrians, and just about anyone else who ever travels anywhere? To judge from their various reactions - or, more specifically, those of their respective lobbying organisations - he has indeed.

But the truth of the matter is, as always, more complicated. Recognise first that this is a White Paper, not a Bill, and there is a long way to go before any of the Deputy Prime Minister's proposals receive the Royal Assent, let alone take practical effect. The genesis of the White Paper (itself much delayed) reflects such a journey. When Mr Prescott handed over the more strongly anti-car first draft to the "teenyboppers" in the Downing Street Policy Unit, their response was to feed much of it into the office shredder. In the world of New Labour, nothing is ever "anti" anything. Consensus rules. So now Mr Prescott is at pains to stress that neither he nor his White Paper is anti-car.

This is nonetheless a useful document, if far from radical, and the emphasis on persuasion rather than coercion is sensible. As a series of individual measures - some of which are more worthwhile than others - the sum is no greater than the parts, but it is by concentrating on this micro level that real progress to help communities is going to be made. The only potentially revolutionary aspect to it, ironically, has nothing to do with transport. By agreeing to hypothecation of the road and parking charges proposed in the White Paper, the Treasury has opened up the way to a fundamental change in taxation policy. The arguments in favour of hypothecation are superficially attractive. Drivers, already heavily-taxed, will stomach additional charges if they can see the monies raised fed back to them through improvements in the transport infrastructure. But why should such a rationale apply to transport alone? When one thinks the idea through it falls apart.

The problem Mr Prescott faces is simple: every driver agrees that there are too many cars on the roads and too many inessential journeys that could be better made on public transport - journeys, that is, other than their own. Thus, while Mr Prescott is right to point to



the school run as a major contributor to congestion, one wonders whether extra bike sheds and "safe" child walkways will really make much impact. Given half a chance, most parents would do anything to avoid the daily chore. But it is not just other traffic they want to protect their children from, it is also crime. And that means an adult accompanying a child to the school gate. The only thing likely to make a real dent would be more American style "school buses", which would be both popular with parents and safe.

The other area of concern is the idea of charging for car parking spaces. The government seems not to have fully shaken off the Old Labour view that "business" is some amorphous entity that is able to take on any extra burdens decreed by Whitehall. If businesses are to be charged for the car parking spaces they provide then only two things can follow: the costs will be passed on either to the customer or the employee. There is no such thing as a costless tax.

Leaving such gripes aside, however, the White Paper is a sensible compendium of measures which taken together should do a little good. It may even clear a few cars off the roads. But its legacy will be mostly symbolic, marking a turning point in government policy, the moment the state decided to start tackling our reliance on the motor car. For that alone, it is to be welcomed.

Selling the Stock Exchange short

HOW ABOUT this for an exercise in shooting yourself in the foot? Since the new "order-driven" computerised SETS system was introduced with such a fanfare last year - remember those pictures of Gordon Brown pressing the button and lighting up a sea of red? - the half hour or so from half past eight in the morning has been the cause of much concern. Trading is light and prices are inclined to be inexplicably distorted by "rogue" trades: just one or two deals can cause great volatility. And so the Stock Exchange has decided "after extensive consultation" that, from this week, the floor will open half an hour later, at 9 o'clock. "We believe," as the exchange puts it, "that a later opening will lead to more consistent pricing at the start of the day."

To coin a phrase: you couldn't make it up. The Stock Exchange is, of course, a vital cog in the money machine of the City, one of the few areas in which Britain is still a major world player. So how do the powers-that-be plan to maintain its competitiveness? By voluntarily giving up half an hour's morning trading. What a surprise that no sooner was the announcement made than Frankfurt advertised itself as offering an hour's more business than London (it opens at 8 o'clock London time).

This brings into sharp focus a wider strategic question for the Exchange. Its decision to link up with Frankfurt will look more like a takeover if our systems are inferior to theirs, and the German Bourse acquires, more or less from nowhere, the status of "senior partner" to the London Stock Exchange.

Never mind that many people have been lobbying to open half an hour earlier. Never mind that precisely the reason why the market is so volatile early on is because there are few trades - so that the issue is relatively minor anyway. No, say a big welcome back to that phenomenon we thought had died out in the Big Bang: City buffoonery.

Clock this...

FIRST IT was turned into luxury flats and a hotel. Even turning parts of it into an aquarium and a Chinese restaurant was just about understandable. But now comes the most surreal thing to hit County Hall since Ken Livingstone and his collection of amphibians. Yes, the former home of the GLC is to house a Salvador Dali museum. One wonders how anyone came up with the idea. Perhaps after a game of surrealist word association? Waterloo... Clock... Dali!

Sorry, Mr Prescott, but only coercion will drive our cars off the road

I AM one of John Prescott's problems. Until I was 30 I rode a bike to work. And then I bought myself a steel grey Ford Escort, and I never got on the bike again. More than a decade later the green panthers, yellow helmet and crotch-hugging lycra shorts lie mouldering in a box under the stairs.

The Raleigh Classic itself is long-gone, but outside, by the public pavement, stands one of my family's two cars. In two senses only, subsequent events have vindicated this choice. Only last month it was revealed how much damage can be done to the pavement by an over-hard and over-thin saddle. And I am still - unlike many fellow city cyclists - in one piece, having got out before a lorry could turn left across me, or a white van could shunt me into a bollard. But in every other way this decision has been a bad one. I am fatter, uglier, more stressed and much less fit as a result of it.

But why exactly is increased car use by people like me socially intolerable? The world still turns on its (slightly warmer) axis, and if we do sit in bad traffic jams twice a day, well at least we can get the week's shopping on the way home - something our parents had to set aside half a day to accomplish.

OK then. If you live or work in a city or town, get up and look outside your window. You can't see anything? Now mentally subtract, say, two thirds of the cars and vans from the scene in front of you. See how wide the street, freed from parked vehicles, has suddenly become, restored to the dimensions that were originally designed for it. Look how everything is opened up, now that you do not peer

at it over an unbroken fence of chrome and metal.

The traffic, too, has been reduced by two thirds. Perhaps you could imagine riding a bike again in circumstances like these. If you are a parent you will be aware of how much easier it is for your kids to cross the road, or go roller-blading, or play football in the street, or even walk to the local school.

And sniff the air for a moment, with the amount of diesel particulates, sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide now significantly reduced...

That was all a dream. The reality is Hetty Batstand, the engine left running on her double-parked, bull-barred Range Rover, as she delivers Dominic to St Dunstan's Academy for the Rich. It's 22-year-old Gary Speed, his seat belt securely fastened, driving his battered GTi at 30 mph down a tiny back street, completely unable to see (let alone stop for) any small child that might have the temerity to cross his path. It's Ed and his Quality Builders in a 10-year-old Transit, chucking tangible black fumes like poisonous stink-bombs at everyone on his snail-paced route from the house he's doing up, down to the cafe on the High Street, where he will park in a bus lane while he buys two teas and a bacon sarnie.

The reality is a generation of children who only leave their houses by car, and who are imprisoned in their own homes - not by paedophiles or mass murderers, but by Gary, Hetty, Ed and me.

So we must act, and the government is acting. But we must not, of course, do so by "penalising" the mo-

DAVID AARONOVITCH
It is just not true that we use our cars because public transport isn't good enough. That is just our excuse

torist. The AA (of which I am a member) and the RAC are appalled, they say of the need to have a more rational transport policy. It should be one, they argue, that gently encourages car-owners to make some of their journeys by foot, bicycle or public transport, but that does not coerce them. First put in place a massively improved bus and train network, they say, and we would be the first to welcome it. We'd be out of our Vauxhall Viagras and onto the trains in a two shakes of a lamb's tail.

I can't remember who first said to me that the AA was Britain's equivalent of America's National Rifle Association, but they weren't far wrong. For the AA knows full well that the public transport improvements that they demand as a precondition for action against cars, are a chimera. Or, to put it more simply, it is just not true

that we use our cars because public transport isn't good enough. That just happens to be our excuse. It's like those people who use private schooling for their under-11s on the basis that the local schools are dreadful - and then you discover that they haven't so much as set foot in one.

The evidence, which we are reluctant to accept, is that even substantially enhanced public transport reduces car use only marginally. The much vaunted (and beautiful) Manchester tram system, for instance, has hardly touched car journeys into and through the city, despite huge expenditure. Ignoring congestion, people remain obstinately attached to their cars.

In part this is explicable in terms of freedom from the elbows, smells, threatening proximity and Walkmans of other public transport users. But economics and convenience play a big part too. Once you have bought a car, taxed it, MOT'ed it, cleaned it, and bought Supertramp tapes for it, almost any other form of transport is likely to be just as, if not more, expensive. Furthermore you will not have to wait to board your own car, nor will it drop you 400 yards from your house on a stinking day in late January.

One answer to this problem would be to make it far more expensive just to own or run a car. Road tax could be raised to genuinely prohibitive levels (say, a grand a year), fuel tax could be quadrupled, and the cars themselves made hugely more expensive to buy - as in Singapore. The trouble is that this approach, while tempting, is genuinely inequitable. It impacts too harshly upon the poor and the rural.

What catches the rich and poor equally, while targeting the areas where life really is destroyed by the car, is simple old-fashioned coercion. Coercion means streets closed to private traffic, parking restricted to all except residents, two lanes of a three lane road reserved for buses and bikes, leaving only one for other traffic, instant fines for driving at over 15 mph on back streets. It means £100 on-the-spot fines for illegal parking and driving in bus lanes.

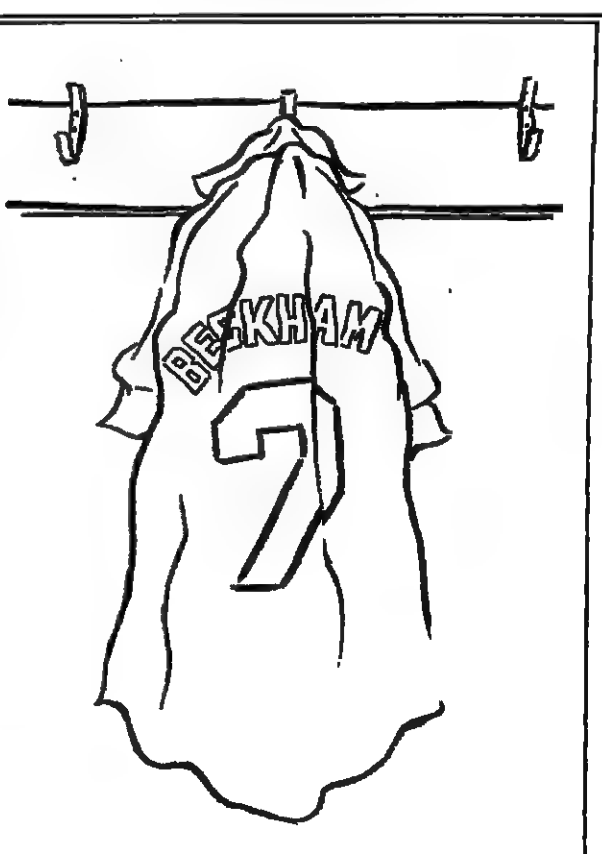
Coercion works, too, because quite a lot of traffic "vanishes". When, at the height of the IRA bombing offensive, the "ring of steel" was placed around the City of London, the delays and inconvenience led to a substantial drop in traffic, which was not displaced, but disappeared. When Kew Bridge in south-west London was closed to cars, there was no increase in the vicinity, but there was, once more, a foot and cycle bridge over the Thames.

It may be that, politically, such necessarily vicious measures have to be accompanied by reams of pieties, and loads of cooked-up statistics on public transport investment. And, certainly, this is one area where hypothecation may actually work, recycling the cash from fines and parking charges into cycle lanes and lollipop ladies and gentlemen. But it will be the nasty little acts of coercion that will get us out of our motors.

Repeat such acts a thousand times over (which Mr Prescott's White Paper will allow local authorities to do) and I would, I promise, get down to the bike shop and see if Raleigh still makes the Classic. And I also promise that I won't wear the lycra shorts.

QUOTE OF THE DAY
"We have such political correctness in this country it drives me potty and makes me want to take off my clothes and swear very loudly in public."
Anna Ford, broadcaster and journalist

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY
"Glückseligkeit ist nicht ein Ideal der Vernunft, sondern der Einbildungskraft."
(Happiness is not an ideal of reason but of imagination.)
Immanuel Kant, German philosopher



"WE ARE all accomplices in this grotesque hypocrisy because we all know that drug-taking is prevalent during the Tour de France. When you take into account the fact that the race is dependent on high financial stakes, you realise it couldn't be otherwise. When you are in a team and have to earn a living, you have no choice. For this reason, it is inconceivable that the Festina team is the only guilty party."
Le Parisien

"IT WILL be difficult to break the sport-money-chemical

MONITOR

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD
Reaction to the drugs scandal engulfing the Tour de France

cal, so 'authentic', now reveals itself to be sullied by a drugs scandal? The Festina business reflects a France - the world champion of drug consumption - in which the cult of performance and victory are exalted and in which cheating is legitimised through victory. The competitors won't be able to find the strength to break out of the vicious circle of investment imposed by the sponsors, the trainers and the organisers. And the exclusion of one team

won't miraculously absolve the pack. The situation can only get messier."
Liberation

"IT IS not simply a question of punishing allegedly guilty champions, of chastising the practitioners who are acting like sorcerers' apprentices or the trainers who are desperate to keep their athletes at their peak throughout the season. It isn't even a question of simply tracing the well known trafficking network. The point is that the very legitimacy of this sport is in question. Should we

be turning the 'slaves to the road' so dear to Albert Londres into elite laboratory rats?"
Le Monde

"ALTHOUGH THE use of illegal drugs has long been suspected in the professional pack, the thousands of drug checks carried out every season implicate fewer than a dozen riders. A major question has been whether the rumours are unfounded or whether the doctor that most teams employ is far ahead of the drug inspectors."
International Herald Tribune, Paris

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PANDORA

"RUMOURS OF my death are greatly exaggerated ... at the moment," said the "Man of the (Sunday) People" himself, Tom Petrie. At the moment? So it's true that Petrie was about to make way for a new column to be written by David Mellor? "You'd have to speak to the editor, I honestly don't know ... I probably know less than you," Petrie replied to Pandora's query. Meanwhile, Mellor's office gleefully announced that the column had already started. Dufffully Pandora scanned last Sunday's issue, but no smiling mugshot of the ex-Minister for Fun or examples of his words of wisdom were to be found. Mellor's office took the trouble to check it out for me. "It should be in there, it's called 'Man of the People'," a lady at his office said. Uncanny. Perhaps it will surface next week.

GARY STREETER, the Conservative MP for Devon South West has been preaching about the revival of his party's fortunes in a recent issue of *Church of England News*. "A powerful new ethics committee will ensure that the activities of a few will never blight the whole Party's good name again," Streeter assured readers in the issue of 1 May this year. "Holier-than-thou" is the cry against Streeter, the former Home Office Minister responsible for legal aid, who was found guilty last week of breaking Law Society rules with "conduct unbecoming a solicitor" and fined £1,000.

How fortunate that Streeter's Party are now out of government, and that nobody will really notice his blight on their good name.

WHILE NEW Labour are in the process of exporting their media expertise across the Channel (notably to aid Spanish socialist leader Josep Borrell), it would seem that back-bench rebels may be able to learn from events across the Atlantic. Last week, the Washington Post reported that the city police's emergency response team gave up their pagers for several hours in protest at inadequate training. A useful play for veteran rabble-rousers such as Grimsby MP Austin Mitchell to adopt when waging war against Millbank, perhaps? "I would never give up my pager, especially with the re-shuffle approaching. The call might come at any time," says Labour's plain-speaking Yorkshireman. "Besides, how would I know what to think?"

EVERY YEAR, students and parents wait with high hopes for definitive words from the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service. But is UCAS as meticulous with its own literature as it is with students' application forms? Seemingly not. One of Pandora's colleagues noticed the following spelling errors among its guidelines: "If it is necessary, you will be advised [sic] by October 1998. Some bursaries will be available [sic]." Clearly UCAS has failed to make the grade.

NO SURPRISE to meet interior designer Nicky Haslam at last week's opening of yet another K-Bar, this one in Chelsea. The rejuvenated Haslam (one of the participants in the K-Bar "experience") was ranked 17th on *Tatler's* recent list of London's most in-demand party guests. However, the pressure of being ranked only four places higher than fellow designer and restaurateur Sir Terence Conran (pictured) seems to be taking its toll. When asked if he admired the way Conran's various establishments avoided any chain-store uniformity, Haslam retorted: "Terence Conran? He's a great, fat lump."

NOT APPEARING in *Tatler's* list of 250 "must-have" guests is Simon Le Bon, also present at the K-Bar last week. Pandora understood completely that Le Bon didn't really want to talk about his musical career and was impressed by his parting excuse: "And now I'm off to talk to some girls, just like I did in the beginning." And why not? After all, there was no sign of his wife Yasmin to hold him back.

CAN JAMES Dean ever rest in peace? On two occasions the tombstone of the late teen idol has been stolen, the second theft occurring just last week. But it may be that the man who still adorns the bedroom walls of countless teenagers has had the last laugh. The tombstone was abandoned in the middle of a busy road six miles away from Dean's hometown of Fairmont, Indiana, damaging the car of Deputy Sheriff Aaron Gilman who ran over it. "I thought I might straddle it, but I didn't quite make it," Gilman told the New York Post afterwards. Millions of "Deans" everywhere will be proud to know that their hero is still bucking authority from beyond the grave.

What was it that was so odd and embarrassing about the press conference at which the French footballer and alleged heartthrob David Ginola announced his support for the anti-landmine campaign? Was it the fact that his native country is famously enthusiastic about selling arms to anyone if the price is right? Or was it his appearance as the resident hunky foreigner on the BBC's World Cup panel?

Certainly his pouty, mane-waving performance in a series of shampoo commercials did little to establish his credentials as *un homme sérieux*. Still, he's quite famous and sincere and has a nice smile; so why should his involvement in Diana's favourite charity have seemed so hilariously wrong-headed?

The truth seems to be that while David is undeniably a celebrity, he's the wrong kind of celebrity. Even at moments of extreme awkwardness – as when Jimmy Hill responded to his reference to "passionate football" with a glibly grinning flirtatiousness – he behaves with the weary politeness of one who understands the price of fame. He's just not tragic enough to be a celebrity who cares.



TERENCE BLACKER

The English like to batten upon those who are not only vulnerable but sexually desirable

His life is patently light on heart-break. In short, he has not been to hell and back.

Fortunately, another footballer is being prepared for this role. His name is David Beckham and, although his grasp of English is slightly shakier than Ginola's, his credentials as a celebrity victim are impressive. A good-looking boy hero with a liking for the good life and a

famous girlfriend, he scored one of the goals of the World Cup finals, and then, in the next match, directed a girly sideways kick at an Argie in the manner of a three-year-old having a row with his sister, and was sent off.

Overnight he became an emblem of national failure and disappointment. Death threats were sent to his family. His club had to hire a full-time security guard to protect him in training. An effigy in a Beckham shirt was strung up by the neck and gleefully photographed by the press. Rights to the inevitable public apology, the new ducking stool for celebrities, have been negotiated by the BBC. The tabloids have taken their traditional position in the front-row seats, imploring fans not to destroy the lad, while quietly fanning the flames of hatred.

Now much of this is the usual celebrity madness. At a time when someone fantasises about raping Steven Spielberg, when even Michael Winner excitedly reports that he too is being stalked, there's obviously something about fame that robs the mentally frail of any sense of judgement or sexual taste.

But why Beckham? When the

great Butch Wilkins took an early bath in a World Cup finals game, there was never any question of his being vilified. Had any other member of the team playing Argentina, with the possible exception of Michael Owen, been sent off, he would have been subject to no more than routine ribbing from fans at the beginning of the season.

No, Beckham's credentials had almost nothing to do with what he did: it was who he was that mattered. Naïve, not very bright, a fake blonde, enjoys the celebrity lifestyle, has a famous love life and, above all, cute-looking: who does this remind us of? The photographs of him ducking miserably out of a car, a hunted look in his eyes, pursued by cameramen, contains a clue. Since the death of Diana, there's been a vacancy for the nation's favourite celebrity victim and now we have candidate.

There's something very creepy and English about all this, something connected to the nation's sexual frustration and incipient sado-masochism. Just as Fergie was simply too big and bouncy and red-haired to be an acceptable victim in the Diana mode, so it would

be inconceivable for any other English sportsman – Tim Henman, say, or Damon Hill – to be humiliated by enraged, excited fans.

The syndrome is one which a sex therapist, or anyone who has been to prison or boarding-school, will recognise. While pack animals turn on the weakest member of the group, the English like to batten mercilessly upon those who are not only vulnerable but also sexually desirable.

There is a sadistic urge to build up the chosen victim, subjecting him or her to a campaign of pursuit and adoration, bullying and hero-worship, until the inevitable crack-up occurs. At that point, a process of adoring, tearful reparation can begin. Recently this national love of humiliation has acquired a new, sanctimonious gloss; as confessional TV programmes reveal every day, caring and hatred feed upon one another.

So what do we now expect of the luckless David Beckham? Not much. Apology, despair, professional and personal misfortune, a trip to hell and back, should just about do it. Then we'd love him to tell us all about landmines.

Is there any life left in the House of Commons?



DONALD MACINTYRE

The Commons is beginning to feel like the Victorian theme museum it so closely resembles

THE LIGHTS are on. But is anyone at home? The House of Commons is somehow not the fashionable place it once was. It is not merely that Tony Blair is notoriously ill about the place, and that when he addresses the Parliamentary Labour Party for an end-of-termish meeting tomorrow, it will be a relatively infrequent visit.

Nor is it that his entertaining knockabout each Wednesday afternoon with William Hague is so seldom enlightening. Nor that the huge majority he secured last year means that the days of knife-edge Commons votes are only a memory. Nor that major policy announcements, including yesterday's Transport White Paper, are regularly trailed before they even get to Parliament. Think, too, about all the competition the Palace of Westminster is about to have: two great palaces for the Scottish Parliament and the Welsh Assembly. Then there's a new life for Stormont, that huge neo-classical temple on the fringes of Belfast, Oh, and don't forget Admiralty Arch, the probable and highly desirable new address for the London Mayor.

Somehow the Commons is beginning to feel like the Victorian theme museum it so closely resembles.

It all attests to one of Blair's great achievements over the last year: the rapid devolution of power. But here's the paradox. On the one hand, Blair has indeed pressed on faster and more thoroughly than anyone expected with constitutional reforms which move democratic control closer to where it is exercised. On the other, the huge authority which he and his government retain in Whitehall has seldom been less subject to challenge. You don't have to believe Derek Draper's boast that there are only "17 people who count" to realise that the constitutional checks and balances on the executive have

rarely been more paltry. Respect – and sometimes fear – of the press is highly developed within the administration. Respect, let alone fear, of what the Commons can do to the Government is in much less evidence.

Now this wasn't quite supposed to be. The section of the Labour manifesto headlined "An Effective House of Commons" left a firm impression that the Government was serious about a more robust, less supine, parliament. Yet the signs are that the project of reforming the House of Commons is running into a siding. The work done by the committee chaired by the Leader of the House, Ann Taylor, is worthy and sensible, designed to make the place more civilised and parent-friendly by adjusting the hours that Parliament sits. It has posed virtually none of the fundamental questions about what the functions of a modern House of Commons are in an era in which the volatility of the electorate makes huge majorities possible and when power is draining away from Westminster. And that, you can't help feel-

ing, can't all be Ms Taylor's fault.

Not everything about the Commons is bad, or pointless. There are slight, flickering, signs of life in the Commons Select Committees. It was sensible for Giles Radice's Treasury Select Committee, faced with a firm refusal by the Government to allow US-style confirmation hearings of members of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee, to go ahead and carry them out anyway. The Foreign Affairs Select Committee has already gone several rounds with Robin Cook on the, admittedly rather peripheral, dispute over Sandline's dealings in Sierra Leone. But, overall, the modern Select Committee system has not yet lived up to the expectations created for it when it was ushered in by the Tory government in 1979.

Indeed, the most signal potential exception could yet prove to be a committee which Gladstone helped to establish more than a century before that – the Public Accounts Committee, less grandstanding but rather more forensic than the others, which has the benefit of having the National Audit Office to supply it with raw data – and some skilful Labour interrogators like Alan Williams and Maria Eagle. Its new Tory chairman, David Davis, took a clever career decision when he decided to take the job, in preference to a middle-ranking one in the Shadow Cabinet. Like Harold Wilson, a past chairman, he has correctly concluded that it was one of the best jobs in opposition. He has already started to make a difference, driving the committee's writ into royal expenditure and the running by Camelot of the National Lottery, and putting what will probably prove irresistible pressure to be given auditing rights over housing associations and legal aid. Unworried by the harsh light the National



Tony Blair faces the Commons at the dispatch box

Audit Office has thrown on the privatisation scandals of the Tory era – like the way in which individual railway managers made up to £30m from the sale of rolling stock to the private sector – he has asked for two reports on future privatisations and private-public partnerships, to prevent the taxpayer being as short-changed in future. So far, the PAC is still dealing with the backlog from the last government. Soon it will start on the present one. Some of this, like the work it has planned on the chaos of the criminal justice system, will be helpful to the Government. Some of it, it is to be hoped, will embarrass it, when it ought to be.

But this isn't enough. How many bills, for example, are being considered carefully by select or standing committees in draft form to prevent abortions like the pensions mis-selling scandal under the previous government's legislation? Where is the review of ministerial accountability promised in the manifesto "to remove recent abuses"? Why do the whips still have the

biggest say on who does and who doesn't go on select committees? Does the Government back Mr Davis's own proposal that select committees should have their resources doubled? Does it back Paddy Ashdown's idea that they should be given more powers? And finally – a forlorn hope – does Tony Blair dare to boldly go where his predecessors have resolutely failed to and cut the number of ministers in his forthcoming reshuffle – which would do a great deal to create an alternative backbench career structure?

After a year of constitutional reform, two further tests now await the Government's commitment to pluralism and modernisation. One is the Freedom of Information Bill, currently gridlocked in Whitehall as Lord Irvine battles against vested departmental interests to see it through. And another, in the spirit of the manifesto, is serious Commons reform.

Until then, to borrow EM Forster's ringing phrase, it's only "two cheers for democracy".

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The Martyrs' cause is still with us

WE TAKE pride in the stand made by six agricultural labourers from this small community.

We thank those who down the years have played their part in ensuring that we never forget the story of the Dorchester labourers and their struggle to ensure that trade unionism was not crushed by those who believed that the only power at work should be the power of the boss to hire and fire at will and to pay however much or however little he chose.

The 1830s were a time when trade unionism began to flourish. The campaign to bring the Tolpuddle Martyrs home was one of the first great, peaceful demonstrations of modern times.

We owe many of our ideals and many of our ideas to the Chartists, whose cause was inextricably linked to that of the Tolpuddle Martyrs.

After years of oppression following the French Revolution trade unionism began to emerge as a force in British society. It was a time of optimism, a time when working people took confidence in their own abilities to make their

own lives better. Our history has seen many such periods.

The 1860s, when the TUC was formed, was another. And in the 1890s trade unionism broke out of its craft base and the concept of trade unionism spread to manual workers, to the dockers, to the gas workers and to the newly emerging clerks – the white-collar workers of Victorian days.

More recently, in the Fifties, Sixties and Seventies, we saw the growth of trade unionism among the new workers of those post-war days – the car workers, the professionals, the women workers – and among the public sector.

Interpersed with these periods of confidence we have gone through difficult times: times of recession and unemployment, when anti-union forces were in the ascendancy, when our membership fell into decline, and we had to hang on.

For the past 20 years or so we have struggled through such a period. We have faced a hostile government and aggressive employers. Had the Tories gone on for much longer we might even have seen the return of laws not too



PODIUM

JOHN MONKS

From a speech by the

TUC's General

Secretary to the

Tolpuddle trade union

festival and rally

far away from the Combination

Acts of the early 1800s, which

would have been all too familiar

to George Loveless and his

companions.

But today things have

changed. We have the Fairness

at Work White Paper. It is no

panacea. It will not right all the

wrongs of the Tory years.

But it does give us a new

base on which to build. We are

already seeing employers

thinking again about union

recognition. Unions are back on the agenda for employers. We need to put them back on the agenda for workers, too.

This year at the TUC we have taken on our first group of *Organising Academy* trainees. Unions are sponsoring dedicated organisers, young people in the main, enthusiastic, committed, dedicated to bringing the trade union message to today's workers: bringing imagination to the job of reaching out to those who work outside the trade union heartland.

A few weeks ago some of them were at that other traditional festival of the British summer, working in the mud at Glastonbury, taking the trade union message out from the workplace into the community.

What is important is that today we are putting in place practical measures to stop the loss of membership that has drained the trade union movement over the past 20 years.

We know that we have to recruit hard in order to stand still, and we know that unions have recruited thousands, indeed millions of members over the Eighties and Nineties. But we need to do more. We need

to run faster – not just to stand still, but to make real progress.

The story of the Tolpuddle Martyrs makes it clear. It does take courage to organise in the face of a hostile employer, in a difficult climate. Today we live in easier times. Today you will not get transported to Australia, though some may wish you did. But it can be difficult and it does need courage. As the American trade unionist Andy Stern so aptly puts it:

If not us then who?

If not now then when?

It is not just about protecting people at work. It is not just about showing that union Britain is the best side of Britain – fairer, more competitive, more compassionate, better able to face the new millennium. We want to tell the story of the martyrs to new generations. And the message is for all times. Workers need unions today as much as they ever did.

It is our job to build a new trade union movement, that carries forward the ideals that inspired the Tolpuddle Martyrs, and meets the aspirations of today's generation of workers. Spread the message.

What's love got to do with it?

IT IS 20 years since the birth of Louise Brown, the first test-tube baby. Photographs of chubby toddlers transforming into attractive women persuade us to accept the totality of the new reproductive technologies. Indeed the consulting room walls of renowned experts in the field, such as the much-televised Professors Robert Winston and Ian Craft, bristle with photographs of their young creations and grateful commissioning parents. And it is hard not to welcome a vision of this sort. But the reality behind these undeniably appealing images must give us pause.

In 20 years, a new multi-million pound industry has sprung up, offering in many cases not merely to cure infertility but to circumvent the problem by manufacturing a baby to satisfy the desires of commissioning parties.

Gift 'gamete intra-fallopian transfer' places sperm and ova into the fallopian tube in an attempt to fertilise them there. IVF mixes eggs collected from the woman's body with sperm in a petri dish to fertilise them and place them in the uterus.

Both techniques mimic and replace old-fashioned sex through the introduction of a middle man. His place is to create human life; sometimes to freeze it, sometimes to experiment on it, and in many cases to destroy it. Gametes (i.e. sperm and ova), as well as human embryos, are routinely frozen and kept in banks where they are able to survive for decades.

In 1932 Aldous Huxley described the fictitious 'Central London Hatchery and Conditioning Centre', 600 years in the future. He wrote of "bulging flanks row upon row and tier above tier of bottles", of numbered test tubes of male gametes kept at 35 degrees and the female kept at 37, and of the fertilising process which injected gametes for abnormalities and transferred them to a porous receptacle for fertilisation with sperm and sent back to incubators.

The powerful image was of a production process, of the manufacture of quality-controlled children for a brave new world. And it is this production process that is the real trouble with this new burgeoning industry in 1998. In essence, we have the mass storage that Huxley described, and children produced through IVF are often screened for abnormalities.

Assisted reproduction is a hornet's nest. What is fundamentally at issue is the child and women's fertility. By interfering in the reproductive act, the technologists behave as though very young humans are just commodities, to be created, maintained and destroyed (if "unfit for their purpose") to satisfy the desires of desperate couples.

Children are being treated as if they were mere commodities to which commissioning parties have a right, whether by private funding or by virtue of the NHS. Like commodities they are subject to quality-control tests. But should we think of young human beings as if they were manufactured entities and women's fertility as a form of product manufacture?

Parental obligation and natural parental fondness are necessarily involved in the generation of human beings in a way that is not necessary in product manufacture. Again, commodities may be regarded as expendable if they are not fit for their purpose in a way that human beings ought not. Additionally, children have a sense of identity and often need to know from where they came; whereas merchandise makes no such demand.



JACQUELINE LAING

In 20 years, a new industry has sprung up, offering not merely to cure infertility but to manufacture babies to order

Anonymous gamete donation is only one aspect of the new reproductive technologies that fails to accord the respect that is due to the child. Well-intentioned though gamete donors may be, they are essentially abandoning responsibility, both emotional and financial, for their children.

Furthermore, given the commercial and scientific interests at stake, it is quite possible for the modern clinician to prey on the unjustified fears of some women that their lives are meaningless or unfulfilled unless they have children. The truth, without labelling the point, is that one can lead a good and fulfilling life without children.

Examples of the manufacturing madness of the new bio-technocrats are legion. One British bio-technology expert and pioneer has inseminated human eggs into rabbits and monkeys in an effort to fertilise them there. He and others have called for further experimentation with human embryos in pigs, sheep and rabbits. Rats ova have been crossed with human sperm. Hamster tests, (examinations which test the motility or vigour of men's sperm by attempting fertilisation in hamster's ovum), are often used in IVF programmes.

It is now possible to freeze gametes and embryos and, consequently, to create human beings whose parents are long dead. A child can be created using the sperm of a corpse and the egg of a dead fetus. And cloning introduces the possibility of asexual reproduction.

News last week of the use of corpses in IVF in the United States suggests that there are no limits to which the clinician will go to satisfy the desires of those they deem meritorious. Dr Cappy Rothman, the urologist who undertook this and other sperm extractions believes that his work "gives people hope and lessens the pain of suddenly losing a loved one".

People can now regard death as no barrier to the production of children and grandchildren they never had. There is no question that sperm and ova frozen today can, in principle, be used to generate children 30 years hence.

Fertility clinic malpractice exists too. Couples and women at a fertility clinic in California who agreed to freeze their embryos returned to discover that their embryos or eggs had been given to other infertile couples who had gone on to bear their genetic offspring.

Examples of test-tube mix-ups abound. One white couple, after having undergone fertility treatment, thought they were going to have their own genetic child, only to discover that the mother had given birth to a bouncing black baby girl. Unhappy with



Dr Ian Craft holds the container in which he created triplets

their "product", the white couple then decided to sue.

Ian Craft may assert that it is "not [their] place to moralise", but the view that it is a doctor's place simply to consider, and attempt to satisfy, the desires of his patients shrouds the fact that reproductive technologies are, of their very nature, morally problematic.

Just because a patient wants something does not necessarily imply that he or she should have it. A man who wants to father hosts of children with different women, who themselves agree to artificial insemination using anonymous donor sperm, should not necessarily have his desire accommodated.

There are moral limits to what can be legitimately undertaken and patient desires are not always paramount.

Indeed the above example is not as far-fetched as it may seem. There is a fertility expert in Virginia who has been tried for providing his own sperm to at least 15 couples. Many more couples choose, for obvious reasons not to give evidence against him.

This is, of course, a case of fertility malpractice. But what the example is designed to challenge is the extent to which a medical practitioner can be said to be a mere technician simply giving effect to the desires of his patients.

In the 20 years since Louise Brown was born, IVF and related technologies have become commonplace. Behind the facade of picturesque toddlers there are underlying moral conundrums which are still not being addressed.

In such a rapidly developing field, the morality of the new reproductive technologies should be considered before they become reality. If we fail to do this, we will then risk becoming a society that is insensitive to the duties that it unquestionably owes to its innocent members, and instead prefers to develop and cater to the manufacturing zeal of the new bio-technocrats.

RIGHT OF REPLY

LEWIS GRUNDY

An executive with Karrimor, the rucksack makers, answers Pandora's campaign against backpack-wearers

IMAGINE LIFE without rucksacks - imagine climbing Everest with a shopping bag; imagine crossing the Antarctic dragging a hold-all; imagine even Inter-Railing with a plastic suitcase. All these activities and more are part of our world at Karrimor. We know that rucksacks are the easiest, most comfortable and, these days, most stylish way to carry your things.

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Rucksacks are innocent of all charges. The injuries I have sustained from travelling on the London Underground are due to a variety of far more vicious means of transporting goods from A to B than the home-grown rucksack.

The library includes bruised shins from hidden briefcases digging into me on the escalators, a sprained ankle from slipping on squashed fruit and veg that had spilled from a plastic shopping bag, and lacerations to the posterior from accidentally sitting on someone's Gucci handbag. And that's not to mention hand-held luggage clattering up the stairs and stopping me from getting on the Tube in the first place, and baby buggies in all their dangerous guises.

Yet, all of these different sorts of bags and luggage can easily be substituted by the vastly superior rucksack format. A well carried rucksack is like a properly driven Porsche - effective, elegant and safe.

It is our belief at Karrimor that only by using more, not fewer, rucksacks will the world be freed of the aching arms, sore palms and bruised legs all too common among low-tech bag users. Raise your eyes to that mountain, reach for that rucksack and take the first step.

The writing of wrongs

EVERYBODY is interested in questions of right and wrong, and in every place where philosophy is taught ethics has always been considered an indispensable part of the syllabus. Not surprisingly, almost every year somebody publishes a book that aims to introduce the subject. But it is extraordinarily difficult to make ethics interesting, and the books seem almost always to fail.

Ethics is the Cinderella of philosophy. It seems boring. The only moralists who have attracted public interest in recent decades have been Iris Murdoch, because she revived the idea of the contemplative life, and Alisdair MacIntyre, because he boldly began from the fact that the subject is indeed in crisis.

Among the public, where ethics used to be we find a curious mixture of lifestyle trends, single-issue campaigning, talk of rights, and a general climate of moral scepticism. Much of the old vocabulary of ethics has fallen into disuse. When did you last hear talk of either conscience or the moral law?

Mary Warnock admits the difficulty. Her title recalls the books that used to be written by people like Shaw and Wells, aiming to enlighten the general public about some large topic about which they had only to foggiest notion. She recognises that in our tradition, ethics has had difficulty in emancipating itself from religion and standing on its own feet. But why should ethics have to be so dull?

At Oxford in the early 1940s, when she began to study moral philosophy, she was conscious of the gulf between the banal ideas of A J Ayer and G E Moore, and the stupendous events taking place across the Channel. Surely there had to be something serious that ethics is about?

So Warnock does in her book what she has done in her life: she turns towards practical ethics, and begins with chapters on Death, Birth and Rights. When public bodies debate policy on such matters as euthanasia or research on the early human embryo, they soon find that determining public morality is



MARY WARNOCK

AN INTELLIGENT PERSON'S GUIDE TO ETHICS

TUESDAY BOOK

AN INTELLIGENT PERSON'S GUIDE TO ETHICS
BY MARY WARNOCK, DUCKWORTH, £12.95

a basically political task. Absolutists must be copied with, and compromise formulae that all parties can live with must be devised and sold to disputants.

Mary Warnock has done all this with considerable success. She is a person of such obvious directness, reasonableness and authority that she never needed feminism; for 30 years it has been obvious to all that she should be in charge. It is not surprising that such a veteran chairman should conclude that public morality has to be broadly utilitarian, and must involve attention

to the facts, compromises and political skill. On all this, I think she is right. Her 14-day rule for human embryo research, still in force, is an excellent example.

The remaining three chapters are about personal ethics. "In the nursery, our nanny used to look at us threateningly, if we were being greedy, or showed off or annoying other people, and say 'T O O'. This meant 'Think Of Others'. It was not a bad basis for moral education."

Human beings are intensely social creatures, who must learn to recognise the needs and interests of their fellows,

TUESDAY POEM

SMALL HOURS
BY ROBERT GRAY

I got up early, for the lavatory,
and saw the mottled yard
that was like itself in photocopy
and the moonlight fins on cloud;

then you appeared beside me and
we hid a rail as travellers' might,
maybe somnolent, touched a hand,
tried to comprehend the night;

viewed it as though a tasteful grave,
until 'Nice to meet' one of us said,
who turned towards the dark wave
of our fathomless bed.

This poem comes from 'Lineations', a selection of work by the Australian poet Robert Gray, published (price £8.95) by Arc Publications, Nanholme Mill, Shaw Wood Road, Todmorden, Lancs, OL14 6DA

and sometimes give them precedence. Such an account of morality is quite compatible with thoroughgoing ethical naturalism. Warnock mentions figures like Aristotle and Hume, but a similar account is given by Charles Darwin.

Then, in her last chapter, she suddenly turns up the temperature, and drives home the importance of morality with an assault on various trends in contemporary thought of which she strongly disapproves. It's all very odd.

She must have known the late John Mackie, a good philosopher who summed up his position in the formula "fallible knowledge and invented ethics". Here, he is perplexingly converted into "McKie", and described as a moral cynic. But surely Mary Warnock's own 14-day rule is a good example of the necessity for, and the value of, moral invention?

In her last pages, Warnock becomes herself a moral realist and indeed an "absolutist". She attacks "relativism" and "postmodernism", even though she has earlier recognised that moral judgement is always relative to the perceived facts of the case. She is especially withering about such great figures as Foucault, Derrida, Rorty, and an unimportant Cambridge theologian who shall here be nameless, but who is highly gratified at being once again roasted in such exalted company.

One day somebody must write a history of academic Europobia in the Anglo-Saxon world. It has prevailed almost continuously since the French Revolution, its purpose being to protect vulnerable young minds from subversive new ideas emanating from Abroad. But it has done this country a lot of harm, and we should be glad that it is now ending. Its end will help to make ethics interesting again.

The reviewer is a Cambridge theologian whose most recent book is 'The Religion of Being' (SCM Press) DON CUPITT

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Sir Robert Lickley

ROBERT LICKLEY was an aeronautical engineer of very high repute in both the British and American industries.

Born and schooled in Dundee, he graduated from Edinburgh University and then Imperial College, London, before joining the Hawker Aircraft design office at Kingston in Surrey in 1933. He was thus one of the early migrants from Scotland - and Wales - to the growing aircraft industry mainly based in

young engineers who later made their mark throughout the industry. These were fortunate people, as their professor had up-to-date and wide experience of aircraft design, development, and production and was thus able to impart to them all the lessons he had learned in his previous years with Hawker.

However, an opportunity beckoned in 1951 to return to industry as Chief Engineering and Technical Director of Fairey Aviation. There he showed great skill in building up a team of mostly young engineers comprising mathematicians, aerodynamicists, structural, and aero-elasticity specialists, together with development engineers and test pilots. Thus equipped, Fairey's was able to cope with a wide range of aircraft projects, including the Gannet anti-submarine aircraft for the Fleet, with a later, vital variant, the Airborne Early Warning (AEW) version. These were the "bread and butter" production aircraft for Fairey at this time. New projects included the Fairey Delta 2, a supersonic delta-wing experimental aircraft which in March 1956 smashed the world's air-speed record by the huge margin of 304mph, reaching 1,132mph over a measured course off the Sussex coast.

Lickley made his mark, with Roy Chaplin, in the mid-Thirties by creating the project design of a single-seat fighter which finally emerged as the Hurricane

southern England, which offered technical and intellectual opportunities to bright young engineering graduates.

Under Sydney Camm, Lickley made his mark with Roy Chaplin, in the mid-Thirties by creating the project design of a single-seat eight-gun monoplane fighter, which finally emerged as the Hurricane. This proved to be a very robust aircraft and a good steady gun platform, which the RAF Fighter Command used to great effect in the Battle of Britain a year or two later.

During the Second World War Lickley was deeply involved as chief project engineer in the development of the Hurricane, Typhoon, Tempest and Sea Hawk, all of which emerged from the Hawker stables.

After the war he was appointed Professor of Aircraft Design at the new College of Aeronautics at Cranfield, in Bedfordshire. In this appointment he brought on many able

Being developed at the same time was the Fairey Rotodyne, a large fast rotary wing aircraft of 33,000lb design weight capable of vertical take-off and landing and aimed at the short haul intercity market. The sole prototype flew several hundred hours, setting a world-speed record of 307kph over the 100km closed circuit in January 1959, a record which stood for many years. However, the Rotodyne was cancelled in 1962 on the grounds of budgetary shortage and external noise.

In addition, Fairey developed as a private venture a very small jet propelled helicopter, the Ultra-Light, for a communication and observation role for the Royal Navy, and to be operable from small ships. However it was not adopted, the Ministry of Supply sticking by the larger, heavier Saunders-Roe Whirl, then at the prototype stage.

These Fairey projects, Gannet, Delta, Rotodyne and Ultra-Light were all handled simultaneously by the en-

gineering team at Hayes, in Middlesex, where Lickley was by then managing director. The total strength of the engineering team at the time, including experimental shop, test personnel, typists and administrators, was not more than 1,000 people, an amazingly small number compared with those involved in the European collaborative ventures which followed.

Lickley, and Fairey's, suffered a severe disappointment when their new RAF fighter project was still-born by the ill-advised policy of Duncan Sandys as Minister for Defence, then Aviation, who opined that "the day of the manned fighter is over" and that guided missiles would reign instead. Fairey had won the competition with a design based on the successful Delta, so the cancellation very adversely affected the company's fortunes and also those of the British aircraft industry. In contrast, the French govern-

ment and industry seized the opportunity by initiating a design based on Delta concept which blossomed into the Dassault Mirage, many hundreds of which have been built and sold world-wide.

After Westland purchased the UK interests of Fairey Aviation (and Bristol Helicopters and Saunders Roe) in 1960, Lickley decided his future lay elsewhere. He returned to Hawker Siddeley as a director, where he was much concerned with their VTOL (vertical take-off or landing) ideas, which came to fruition in due course as the Harrier.

The Rolls-Royce collapse in 1971 led to Lickley's being involved, through the National Enterprise Board, as leader of the board's Rolls-Royce Support Staff, where he worked hard to restore that company's aero-engine business to its present successful strong international position.

Bob Lickley was essential a very

private person who never talked of any special hobbies, for recreation, he enjoyed golf, at which he was good enough to be an effective industry representative for several years in the annual golf match between the Society of British Aerospace Companies (SBAC) and the RAF. In the office he was pretty demanding of his subordinates and perceived shortcomings through acerbic remarks, which some found rather frightening. However the best response was a robust and well-argued case, which Lickley respected. In debate he was forceful, logical and able to accept other points of view without rancour.

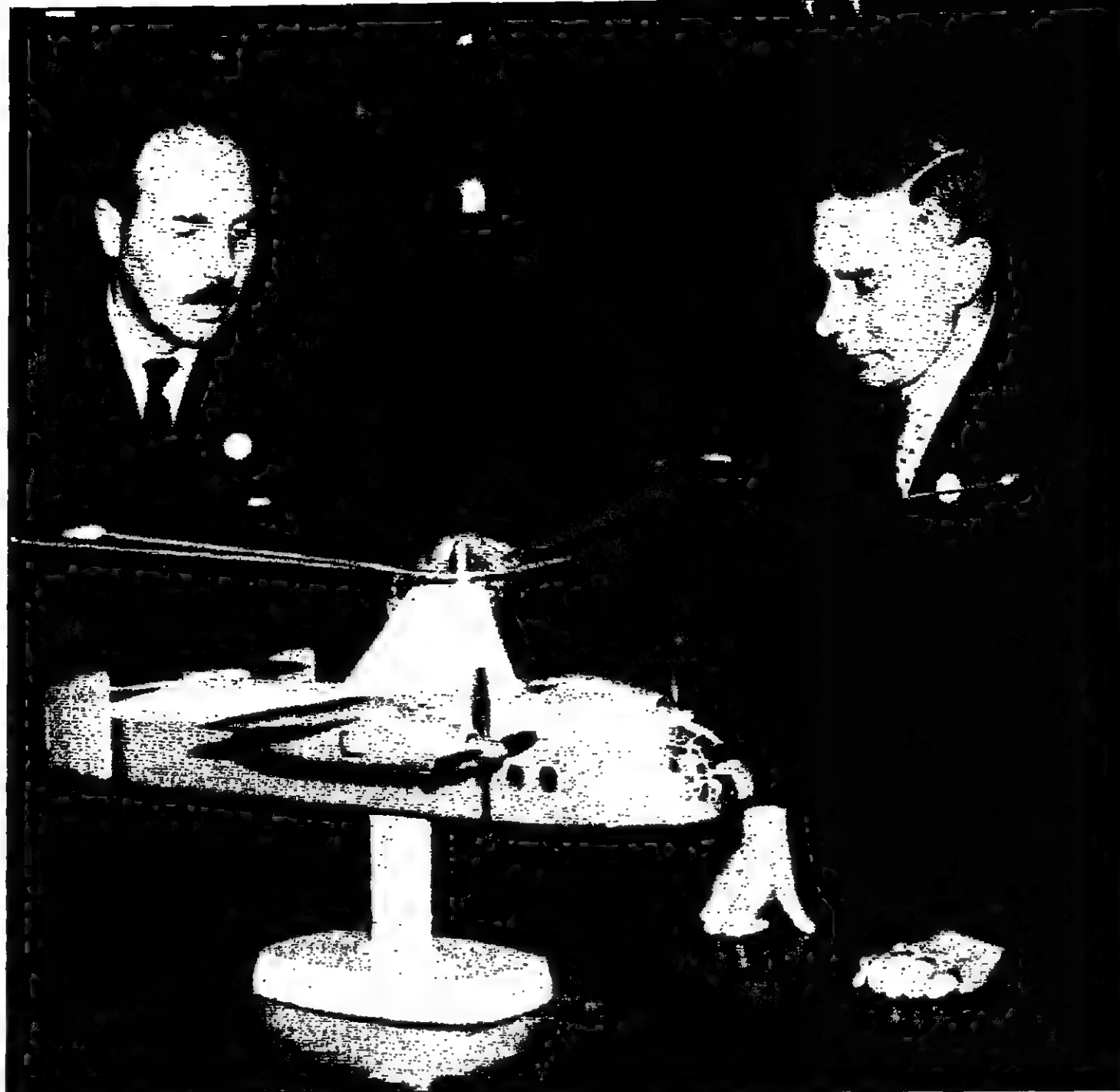
He was an active member of various committees of the Aeronautical Research Council (ARC) between 1946 and 1968, and was a committee member and later a member of council of the SBAC. In addition he was President of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers in 1971, and

of the Institution of Production Engineers in 1981 and 1982. He was also an honorary Fellow of the IMechE, a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society, the Institution of Electrical Engineers, the Royal Academy of Engineering and of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

The Royal Aeronautical Society awarded him its British Gold Medal in 1967 and its Taylor Gold Medal in 1968.

G. S. Hishop

Robert Lang Lickley, aeronautical engineer; born Dundee 19 January 1912; Professor of Aircraft Design, College of Aeronautics, Cranfield 1946-51; managing director, Fairey Aviation 1951-60; managing director, Hawker Siddeley Aviation Ltd 1960-76; CBE 1973; Head, Rolls-Royce Support Staff, National Enterprise Board 1976-79; K2 1984; married (one son, one daughter); died 7 July 1998.



Lickley (right) and colleague in 1954 with a model of his Fairey Rotodyne, a rotary-wing aircraft capable of vertical take-off and landing

Harry McGurk

IN THE 1970s, the psychologist Harry McGurk made an interesting discovery in the course of his research which was to become known as the "McGurk effect".

Well before the days of politicians' exhortations to "read my lips", he found that the brain is able to make compromises between the visual representations of speech and its auditory aspects. The implications of this research are that lips convey important information about speech not just to the deaf, who are forced to rely on visual images, but to "normal" listeners as well. Among a multitude of publications, a key article authored by H. McGurk and J. MacDonald, "Hearing Lips and Seeing Voices", was published in *Nature* in 1976.

McGurk's story is about struggle, against his humble origins in the Gorbals in Glasgow and a childhood marked by severe illness and the loss of his mother in early childhood.

His story is also about historical timing. Having left school at 15 to work as a clerk, followed by a period in social work, opportunities opened up for McGurk with the educational expansion of the 1960s and the rise of the new universities. Aged 28, he took a first degree in Psychology at the new University of Strathclyde. His career then began to follow the conventional pathway of an academic which culminated in promotion to professorial status in 1986, as Professor of Developmental Psychology at London University.

McGurk worked on his PhD research under Rudolph Shaffer and demonstrated that infants aged six months can distinguish visually between different presentations of the same shape. After a period working in a laboratory at Princeton University, he returned to the UK, but this time to England. He remained at Surrey University for the next 20 years.

In 1990, McGurk's career took an unexpected turn when he became Director of the Thomas Coram Research Unit at the Institute of Education at London University. The Thomas Coram Research Unit had been founded by Professor Jack Tizard to create a new kind of environment in which to conduct research which would inform not only the academic world but also feed into and shape the concerns of policy makers and practitioners. While McGurk had little experience of the policy world, his ambition



and sense of adventure served him well in this role. He directed an important programme of research on the quality of Britain's still impoverished system of child care. However, his career took a further new turn before this work was completed.

Inspired by his many international involvements, McGurk made the bold decision to start a new life, both personally and professionally, in Australia. From 1994 until his death, he was Director of the Australian Institute of Family Studies, a high-profile policy research centre with a close relationship to the Australian government.

Among McGurk's many involvements on the international academic stage, his long service in the International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development is the most notable. Over many years, he held all its formal positions, including editorship of its journal (1984-90) and the presidency of the society, to which he was elected in 1996.

Harry McGurk will be remembered for his energy and enterprise, a shrewd Scot who had a sense of adventure which gave him rather more youth than he could claim. Despite his desire for action, none the less he had a strong sense of commitment to the past, to his long-held socialist values and to his Scottish origins, to which he had hoped to return in retirement.

He was immensely proud that his daughter had taken up the baton of psychology and, unlike many children today, is continuing the parental line.

Julia Brannen

Harry McGurk, psychologist; born Glasgow 23 February 1936; Director, Thomas Coram Research Unit, Institute of Education, London University 1990-94; Director, Australian Institute of Family Studies 1994-98; married (one daughter); died 17 April 1998.

Victoria Armstrong

VICTORIA ARMSTRONG devoted the latter half of her life to the welfare of six indigenous tribes who dwell in the Nilgiri Hills in southern India.

She joined the Nilgiris Adivasi Welfare Association (Nawa) as an unpaid worker in 1966 and, through her personal endeavours, attracted donations from all over the world to enable the manifold expansion of medical and educational programmes for the tribal communities.

Born in London in 1909, Armstrong was educated in Peckham and Dulwich, and became a school-teacher in 1930. While pursuing her teaching career with great zeal, she also studied in the evenings and in 1935 gained a BSc in Botany and Zoology at Birkbeck College, London, and a diploma in English literature at King's College London in 1942.

At the outbreak of the Second World War, Armstrong was evacuated to Kent, but soon returned to London and, finding the schools



closed, opened a class at Eltham for children of mixed ages and abilities, where she taught science, drama and English. The class subsequently became a school, Eltham Girls High School.

In 1945, Armstrong was appointed HM Inspector of Schools and worked in Berkshire, Oxfordshire,

Yorkshire, Durham and Northumberland for the next 21 years.

Victoria Armstrong never forgot her first visit to India, in 1960. Dr S. Narasimhan had pioneered tribal development in the Nilgiri Hills and registered Nawa as a secular charity in 1958. He drove her one night to his primitive one-roomed hospital, where she saw the physical plight of the tribal people, caught up in a deadly cycle of poverty, leading to malnutrition, apathy and ill-health. She realised she was in the presence of a great need. At that time, Armstrong was a tourist visiting friends in Kotagiri, but although it took six years for her to save and plan to leave England for India, the idea and inspiration could not be suppressed.

She retired early aged 56, bent on making a new life in India working for tribal rehabilitation. It was 1968 when she set off to help Narasimhan. She greatly admired his personal qualities and medical skills but Nawa was being run on a shoe-

string - Armstrong resolved to draw attention world-wide to the impoverished tribes. Money was needed for medicine and for transport to the interior settlements to which the tribes had retreated as their forests were destroyed to raise the profitable tea, coffee and vegetable plantations which now cover much of the area.

Over 32 years, Armstrong battled to revive the health and raise the hopes and ambitions of the tribal people; she worked unstintingly without drawing any salary. She managed to attract sponsors from many lands as well as from India and one of her greatest pleasures was to write personally to the many generous donors whom she regarded as friends.

When Narasimhan died in 1978, the grief-stricken tribal people came to Armstrong, fearing their hospitals would close; that challenge roused her to renewed activity. She cast aside any wistful thoughts of returning to England, and not only saw that the hospitals were resourced,

but widened Nawa's activities to include new clinics: more mobile medical visits to remote settlements; nutritional and pre-school care for under-fives; training of tribal girls to run nursery units and of women to become health workers; and greater school attendance through the Christian Children's Fund's sponsorship schemes.

With Armstrong's influence, Nawa initiated innumerable income-generating projects, mainly agricultural, and also managed to obtain some government interest and grant aid.

Living high in the Nilgiri hills, which rise to nearly 8,000 feet above sea level, with monkeys jumping on her roof, was a far cry from Peckham. Working from her bungalow, which doubled as Nawa's headquarters, Victoria Armstrong lived a simple life. Water was filtered and boiled for drinking and heated over an open fire for washing. She had no television, but her bungalow was brimful of books and she enjoyed

listening to the BBC World Service on an old wireless.

Until recently, she was still visiting remote tribal settlements with the medical and support staff - travelling in a Jeep loaded with rice, medical supplies and school clothing. These journeys could be hair-raising, particularly after the monsoons, when boulders hurtled down the slopes, or in the jackfruit season, when elephants trampled about.

In her final years Armstrong made unflagging efforts to train people up to carry on Nawa's activities; the team left behind miss her badly.

Angela Croft

Victoria Daisy Armstrong, teacher and schools inspector; born London 3 November 1909; HM Inspector of Schools 1945-68; Honorary Treasurer, Nilgiris Adivasi Welfare Association (Nawa) 1966-98; MBE 1976; died Kotagiri, India 16 May 1998.

Miklos Gabór

IF MIKLOS GABÓR had been born in an English-speaking country he would have been an enormous star. But he was born in a small town in Hungary and became the leading actor of his generation, the Hungarian Laurence Olivier. He had good looks, a beautiful speaking voice and a striking intelligence. He was equally at home on the stage and on screen.

He left drama school in 1940 and from 1945 to 1954 was a member of the Hungarian National Theatre. He made his mark as an outstanding young talent and played most of the leading parts in the classical repertory.

In 1954 he joined the Madach Theatre, another distinguished theatre company in Budapest, and

the scene of his most memorable performances - his boyish Romeo, his excitingly sensual Lorenzaccio, his romantic Ruy Blas, his devastatingly handsome Don Juan. In drab Communist Hungary the matinee-idol image he enjoyed was an unusual phenomenon. It added to the glamour that he was married at the time to one of the country's most successful actresses, Eva Ruttkai. Later they divorced and he married another well-known actress, Eva Vass, who played Ophelia to his Hamlet.

It was Gabór's Hamlet in 1961 that was considered the definitive reading of the part for a generation of Hungarians. His performance was heavily influenced by Olivier's interpretation of the part, yet Gabór

made it very much his own. In his portrayal the isolated, questioning intellectual was the dominant characteristic beside the romantically pure hero.

His later roles included John Tanner; Jacques in *As You Like It*; Richard III; Prospero; Captain Shotover; and Marlowe's Doctor Faustus. This last role probably summed up Gabór's personality - a man with outstanding intellect who is ageless.

To list the films he starred in would fill several columns; the Hungarian Film Lexicon lists 54 titles. The outside world possibly noticed him first in the internationally successful *Someone in Europe* (1947), where he played the leader of a pack of drop-out orphans, roaming the country after the Second

World War. In 1961 he starred opposite Tatiana Samoilova (the distinguished Russian actress) in the co-production *Albe Regia*. The Oscar-winning film director István Szabo chose him to star in his semi-autobiographical film *Father* in 1968. He seemed the most natural choice to play the charismatic father who has a determining influence on his son.

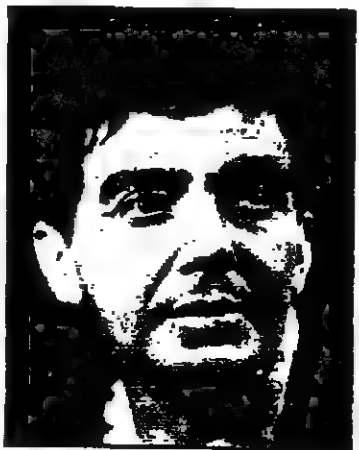
He wrote three books about acting, *Tollal* ("With Pen", 1963), *A színész aranyka* ("The Actor's Shadow", 1972), *Kés a mérleg* ("Capricious on the Balance", 1980), which became an inspiration for a generation and started a trend for books by actors on their craft.

Miklos Gabór was a very private man, in the green room always sit-

ting somewhat apart from the other actors. Still remarkably handsome in his seventies he would sit with a scarf around his neck and hold court. He adored the British theatre, above all Shakespeare. "The leading player of these writings is Shakespeare, one of the greatest, most permanent, most fertile influences in my life," he wrote. "He showed me most clearly what art can represent in one man's and generally in human life."

Gabór was also considered an expert on George Bernard Shaw's work and, indeed, was admired by Hungarians for what they saw as the qualities of an English gentleman: coolness, elegance, intelligence. The English theatre has lost a leading advocate in Central Europe.

Min Nafissi



Miklos Gabór, actor, writer and director; born Zalaegerszeg, Hungary 7 April 1919; married first Eva Ruttkai (one daughter; marriage dissolved), secondly Eva Vass; died Budapest 2 July 1998.

Professor Rachel Rosser

RACHEL ROSSER was a pioneer in research and the clinical practice of psychiatry in several fields. This was not as widely acclaimed within the profession as it might have been, possibly because of her unusual wit and intelligence, which she too often turned on herself and others.

It wasn't known that she herself had to deal with depression and its consequences, which recurred throughout her career but did not inhibit her tremendous accomplishment as clinical scientist, teacher, clinician and mother. She concealed these problems because she felt threatened by doubts about confidentiality and possible effects on her career, a problem for many doctors and professionals.

Rosser started life in Coventry during the Blitz and grew up in great poverty. Her talents took her to King's High School, Warwick, where she was consistently top of her class, then to Newnham College, Cambridge, as a scholar. She qualified as a doctor at St Thomas' Hospital Medical School in London. As a teenager she suffered from untreated anorexia. In her early clinical years she became depressed and developed a reaction to anti-psychotic medication. She was told she would never become a qualified doctor.

It was then that she renewed her friendship with and married Vincent Watts, a friend from Cambridge. They moved to Birmingham, where they struggled financially and began independent but very successful careers. Her research career really began with a Health Service Evaluation proposal in the late 1960s with John (now Lord) Butterfield at Guy's Hospital.

Rosser combined unrivalled skills as a clinician, research scientist and teacher. Always destined to be a psychiatrist, she first became a member of the Royal College of Physicians and acquired a wide range of experience before entering psychiatry at the Maudsley Hospital in London in 1971.

She took a broad-based approach to psychiatry, including psychotherapy and a personal analysis, as well as gaining a deep understanding of the pharmacology of drug-based approaches. She found her natural home in liaison psychiatry assessing people with physical illness who develop psychiatric problems or working with the patient and staff group, i.e. the renal or diabetic team, for a more therapeutic effect on the patient where she was able to help many patients with otherwise untreatable conditions.

She set up and ran a complete liaison service for Charing Cross Hospital and subsequently, at the Middlesex

Hospital, where she became Britain's first woman professor in general psychiatry from 1984. There she created and ran an in-patient psychosomatic ward within which she established an academic medical anthropology unit.

At Charing Cross she took charge of the teaching of psychiatry to medical students and ran the postgraduate training. In spite of her tough-mindedness, her teaching was highly appreciated. As Head of the Department of Psychiatry at UCL from 1984 she had to respond to the aftermath of the fire at King's Cross station in 1987. She co-founded a stress clinic, which counselled on the emotional consequences for survivors and witnesses to this, the Merchison Thames river boat disaster, the Lockerbie air disaster and other traumatic events. Her work with these patients and her many television appearances established post

Her recurring depression did not inhibit her tremendous accomplishment as clinical scientist, teacher, clinician and mother



Rosser with her husband, Vincent Watts, Vice-Chancellor of the University of East Anglia
Alban Donohoe Picture Agency

traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) as a widely recognised condition.

The scope of the clinic later broadened to encompass cumulative strain and critical events affecting individuals. This involved collaboration with religious leaders and lawyers, and participating with social services, emergency services and voluntary organisations in a steering committee. At its peak, more than 1,000 victims were on the register. The clinic continues.

As a research scientist much of her work derived from her varied clinical practice. Her rigorous approach led her to study scientifically the efficacy of different treatment approaches for victims of disaster. She was constantly called upon as one of the UK experts in the field.

Her study of the effectiveness of psychotherapy in improving the lives and functions of patients with chronic lung disease was one of the first to demonstrate that scientific method could be successfully applied to this difficult field

and show a positive result. Her widely questioning mind took her into the social context of medicine and she was a pioneer of Health Services Research.

One of her seminal papers, written with her husband in 1970 and cited many thousands of times, was on the foundations of Quality of Life Assessment. In later years she was prophetic in seeing that Quality of Life measurements might be used to ration rather than expand the Health Service. In 1988, with Stuart Walker, she co-authored *Quality of Life: assessment and application*. Her work on disasters and PTSD led to numerous scientific papers and those addressed to a wider audience were written in simple but powerful language.

Last year her Mental Health Officer status allowed her to retire as Emeritus Professor at the age of 55, to pursue her new focus. She had learnt that many PTSD sufferers, once depression had been relieved, found it difficult to establish any meaning in their lives. She

took the post of Director of the Churches Council of Health and Healing in the belief that spiritual links had much to offer to relieve suffering. Recently she had resigned because she found the Council unwilling to consider involving other faiths and too little interested in research.

She was at an advanced stage of planning and funding a research unit in Norwich to explore the ideas of multi-faith health and healing when an accident at home caused her untimely death, ironically at a time she wasn't depressed.

Steven Hirsch

Rachel Mary Rosser, psychiatrist, born 9 October 1941; Senior Lecturer, Charing Cross Hospital 1976-82, Reader 1983-84; Professor of Psychiatry, University College London Medical School 1984-97 (Emeritus), Head of Department 1984-93; married 1967 Vincent Watts (one son, one daughter); died Hetherston, Norfolk 10 July 1998.

HISTORICAL NOTES

ALEX DANCHEV

The next best thing to Clausewitz

LIDDELL HART, Captain Sir Basil Henry (1895-1970), British military historian, critic, journalist, propagandist, controversialist, archivist, adviser, exemplar, and thrower of stones, was not the Clausewitz of the 20th century, as he and others were wont to claim; but he was, perhaps, the next best thing. A war poet in prose - his inter-war writing carried a comparable charge - he wrote no great book, no timeless synthesis, finished or unfinished. *Thoughts on War* (1944) is the skeleton of such a work. *The Revolution in Warfare* (1946) the sketch, *Strategy: the indirect approach* (fourth revised and enlarged edition, 1967) the simulacrum. His output is staggering - dozens of books, hundreds of articles.

He described himself as "border", meaning something more than geography, and always felt a certain distance from the social and intellectual heartland of England, a distance he worked uncommonly hard to close. Born in Paris, where his father was minister of the Methodist Church, he had a conventional upbringing, peripatetic on the Methodist circuit. His school career was undistinguished - he rose laboriously through the Pauline ranks more by the passage of time in each form than by any sign of intellectual distinction. His university career was, if anything, even more undistinguished. In the examinations at the end of his first year he recorded a dismal Third.

On the outbreak of war Liddell Hart was one of the many young men unconsciously eager for action. He went to this war three times, a persistence of which he was acutely aware. These were short stints, abruptly curtailed by injury. In 1924 he was officially 50 per cent disabled from gas poisoning and was relegated to half-pay. He left the Army, sorrowfully, three years later, bearing his famous, galling rank.

Henceforth, he lived by his pen, and he lived well. He was first a sports correspondent, producing in short order four different accounts of the same match for four different outlets, and an early success of *Le Petit*, *Lawn Tennis Masters Unveiled* (1926), an intriguing anticipation of *Great Captains Unveiled* (1927). He was also a leading authority on fashion - women's fashion - in particular tight-lacing. Liddell Hart had a sophisticated



Liddell Hart: a war poet in prose

appreciation of *l'artillerie de nuit*. He was adept at literary cross-dressing. He wrote strategic accounts of lawn tennis, fashion-conscious accounts of strategy, and games-playing accounts of war. Like all great artists, his best ideas were other people's, made matchlessly his own. His theses seem to live, stubbornly, no matter how often their tails are salted. The salting itself has immensely enriched military discourse. His biggest idea, the "indirect approach", was first coined in 1927; used as a *vide-mecum* by various statespersons, numberless strategists, and the militarily curious of many lands. It continues to live an active and inspirational life to this day, not least in "the manoeuvrist approach" of official British defence doctrine.

The dissection and exhibition of Liddell Hart's work is now almost epidemic. A negative wave of exegesis is followed by a positive one. This is entirely in keeping. As the Germans noted in 1936, "like Zeus's sunlight and rain he bestows... praise and blame on the leaders of the armoured formations". Praise and blame was his currency.

His influence was and is enormous. There is hardly a military writer of repute in the Western world who was not touched in some way by this prodigious, indomitable lighthouse of a man. He survives still, as a climate of ideas. Liddell Hart is the Bertrand Russell of his field; he is all-pervasive.

Alex Danchev is the author of *Liddell Hart: alchemist of war* to be published by Weidenfeld in September, £25

GAZETTE

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh give a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace; Princess Alexandra attends. The Princess Royal officially opens the Mallaig Harbour Extension Breakwater, Mallaig, Inverness-shire.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am.

LECTURES

National Gallery: Rebecca Lyons, "Music (iii), Watteau: The Scale of Love", 1pm. Victoria and Albert Museum: Deirdre Robson, "Changes in Victorian Taste", 3pm. British Museum: Barbara Brand, "The Juki Shannama: a 15th-century manuscript", 11.30am. National Portrait Gallery: Honor Clerk, "BP Portrait Award: the curator's view", 1.10pm.

Announcements for BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, In memoriam) are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette announcements (notices, functions, Forthcoming marriages, Marriages), which must be submitted in writing, are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra. Always include a daytime telephone number.

The Independent's main switchboard number is 0171-293 2000.

BIRTHDAYS

Mr Paul Allaire, chief executive and chairman, Xerox Corporation, 60; Dr Heather Angel, writer and wildlife photographer, 57; Professor Frank Ashley, Dean of the Dental School, Guy's and St Thomas's, 56; The Rev Dom Aidan Bellenger, Director of Historical Research, Downside Abbey, 48; Sir Nigel Broches, former hon president, Trafalgar House, 64; Sir Andrew Buchanan, Lord-Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, 61; Mr Andrew Burns, Deputy Under-Secretary of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 55; Mr John Burrow, Chief Constable, Essex, 63; Dame Joyce Daws, thoracic surgeon, 73; Sir Stephen Egerton, former ambassador to Italy, 66; Miss Buchi Emecheta, writer and lecturer, 54; Mr Yusuf Islam (Cat Stevens), rock singer, 50; Mr Norman Jewison, film director, 72; Mr Leigh Lawrence, actor, 55; Dr Jonathan Miller, television, film and theatre director, 64; Mr Robert Napier, chief executive and managing director, Redland, 51; Maj-Gen the Duke of Norfolk, 83; Mr Bill Pertwee, actor, 72; Mr Julian Pettifer, broadcaster, 63; Lt-Gen Sir Stuart Pringle, former Commandant General, Royal Marines, 70; Mr Karel Reisz, film director, 72; Mr Michael St John Parker, Headmaster, Abingdon School, 57; Mr Lloyd Barnaby Smith, ambassador to Nepal, 53; Miss Kay Starr, singer, 78; Mr Isaac Stern, violinist, 78; Mr Dennis Trevelyan, former Principal, Mansfield College, Oxford, 69; Mr Robin Williams, actor and comedian, 46; Sir Ian Wood, chairman and managing director, John Wood Group, 56.

ANNIVERSARIES

Births: St Philip Neri, missionary, 1515; Jean Picard, astronomer, 1620; Matthew

Prior, poet, 1684; Elizabeth Hamilton, writer, 1758; Paul Julius, Baron von Reuter (Israel Beer Joseph), news agency founder, 1816; Sir John Gilbert, painter and illustrator, 1817; Ludwig Theodore Gouvy, composer, 1822; John George Wood, clergyman and writer on natural history, 1827; Thomas William Hodgson Crossland, journalist, 1868; Frances Parkinson Keyes, novelist, 1885; Jacques Feyder (Frederic), film director, 1888; Eugen Schufftan (Eugene Shuftan), cameraman, sculptor and painter, 1893; Harold Hart Crane, poet, 1899; Ernest Miller Hemingway, novelist, 1899.

Deaths: Robert Burns, poet, 1796; Daniel Lambert, fat man who weighed 739 pounds at his death, 1809; Colvin Smith, portrait painter, 1875; Karl von Piloty, historical painter, 1886; Dame Ellen Alicia Terry, actress, 1928; Louis-Hubert Gonzalve Lyantey, Marshal of France and statesman, 1934; Owen Wister, novelist, 1938; Kenneth Lewis Roberts, novelist, 1957; George Macaulay Trevelyan, historian, 1962; Philip St John Basil Rathbone, actor, 1967; Albert John Luthuli, president of the African National Congress, 1967.

On this day: the Marquesas Islands were discovered by Alvaro Mendana, 1595; the Society of Jesus was dissolved by Pope Clement XIV, 1773; Napoleon defeated the Mamelukes in Egypt in the Battle of the Pyramids, 1798; George Christian Frederick Leopold of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha was proclaimed King Leopold I of the Belgians after the country became a separate kingdom, 1831; the Confederates were victorious in the first Battle of Bull Run, 1861; the first train robbery in the American West was committed by the James-Younger Gang at Adair, Iowa, 1873; Battersea

Bridge, London, opened, 1890; the Tate Gallery, presented to the nation by Sir Henry Tate, was opened, 1897; the Imperial Economic Conference began in Ottawa, 1932; Guam, in the Pacific, was re-occupied by the US, 1944; in the US, the first nuclear merchant ship, the NS Savannah, was launched, 1959; Sir Sirimavo Bandaranaike became prime minister of Ceylon (Sri Lanka) - the world's first woman prime minister, 1960; Runcorn Bridge across the Mersey opened, 1961; Commander Neil Armstrong became the first man to set foot on the Moon, 1969; France exploded a nuclear device at Mururoa Atoll in the Pacific, 1973; the British ambassador to the Irish Republic was killed by a landmine, 1976; the first London performance of the musical show *Follies* was staged, 1987.

Today is Independence Day in Belgium and the Feast Day of St Arbogastes, St Laurence of Brindisi, St Praxedes, St Victor of Marsailles.

CHURCH APPOINTMENTS

The following appointments have been announced by the Church of England:

The Rev Duncan Barnard, Dorset, Bournemouth St Andrew (Chichester) to be vicar; Donington, and Bicker (Lincoln). The Rev Terry Chellie, vicar, Aston Bridge St Paul (Gloucester); to be Priest-in-Charge, Leigh St Mary the Virgin (Gloucester). The Rev John Bell, Assistant Chaplain, Canterbury and Thanet Community Healthcare Trust (Canterbury); to be Priest-in-Charge, Brampton Road, Upton and Sidgate (Bath and Wells). Canon Jeremy Haselock, vicar, Broomsgrove (Gloucester); to be Priest-in-Charge, Over St Mary, and vicar, in Minton and Overington (same diocese). The Rev David Trenchard, Archdeacon of Carlisle (Carlisle); to be Priest-in-Charge, North Weymouth (same diocese). The Rev Robert Ward, vicar, RAF Cranwell; to be Vicar, Balmoral Heath (Leicester).

APPOINTMENTS

Mr David Lyscom, to be ambassador to the Slovak Republic. Judge Leo Charles, to be a senior circuit judge at Southwark Crown Court. Mr William Ebrum, to be ambassador to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. Mrs Patricia Ann Deeley, to be a circuit judge, on the Midlands and Oxford Circuit.

Discrimination could be on ground of sex

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST a homosexual man based upon his homosexuality might also be discrimination against him as a man, and might therefore be discrimination on ground of sex rather than of sexual orientation.

The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal of Paul Smith against a finding of the Employment Appeal Tribunal, upholding the decision of an industrial tribunal that it did not have jurisdiction to hear his claim under the Sex Discrimination Act 1975.

The applicant, a homosexual, was employed as a barman. After complaints about his conduct by a fellow employee, Ms Touhy, he was suspended from work and was subsequently dismissed.

The applicant alleged that Ms Touhy's complaints were that he had been abusive and threatening towards her; that he had flirted with male customers; and that he had insisted on talking in detail about his love life. He said that she had constantly asked personal questions regarding his sexuality and had made offensive remarks.

The applicant complained to an industrial tribunal that he had been subjected to unlawful discrimination contrary to the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 because Ms Touhy's allegations would not have been made against a homosexual woman; because of the employer's conduct of the disciplinary process; and because of the decision to dismiss him rather than Ms Touhy.

The industrial tribunal concluded, on a preliminary issue, that the applicant's claim of discrimination on grounds of his sexual orientation was not with-

TUESDAY LAW REPORT

21 JULY 1998

Smith v Gardner Merchant
Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Beldam, Lord Justice Ward and Sir Christopher Slade)
14 July 1998

in its jurisdiction under the provisions of the 1975 Act. The Employment Appeal Tribunal, upheld that decision.

The applicant appealed to the Court of Appeal on the grounds that for the purposes of the application of section 5(3) of the Act the "relevant circumstances" should be construed as excluding sexual matters in respect of which the discrimination occurred; and, in the alternative, that the tribunal should have held that the relevant comparator to the applicant was a heterosexual woman. *Laura Cox QC and Thomas Riddling (Judge & Priestley, Bromley) for the applicant; Anthony Korn (Dibb Lupton Alsop) for the employer.*

Lord Justice Ward said that, shortly before the hearing of the appeal, the judgment of the European Court of Justice in *Grant v South West Trains Ltd* (Case C-249/96) had been handed down, and, in the light of that judgment, the applicant had abandoned grounds of appeal which claimed that the word "sex" in section 1(1) of the Sex Discrimination Act

1975 meant not only gender but also sexual orientation.

The industrial tribunal and the Employment Appeal Tribunal had asked the wrong question by focusing on the applicant's homosexuality, i.e. whether he had been discriminated against because he was a man (sex) or because he was a homosexual (sexual orientation). That precluded consideration of a vital question, namely whether or not discrimination against the applicant based upon his homosexuality might not also be discrimination against him as a man.

The correct question framed in terms of section 1(1)(a) of the 1975 Act was whether the applicant, a man, had been less favourably treated than his employees treated or would have been treated a woman. It was therefore necessary to decide who the appropriate comparator was.

The applicant had complained that Ms Touhy's allegations would not have been made against a homosexual woman. It was his homosexuality as such which was the distinguishing feature, and thus the "relevant circumstance" of his case for the purposes of section 5(3) of the Act, and accordingly for that part of the case the comparator was a homosexual woman.

The second part of the applicant's claim was that his employer had discriminated against him in choosing to believe Ms Touhy rather than him. The comparator was thus Ms Touhy herself, and no hypothetical comparator was needed.

The appeal would be allowed and the matter would be remitted to the industrial tribunal. Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister

WORDS

WILLIAM HARTSTON
bamboozle, v or n.

"certain words invented by some pretty fellows" which he included in an article "on the continual Corruption of our English Tongue".

Yet bamboozle surely enhances the language rather than corrupts it. The sound of the word captures perfectly the ingenious deviousness of its meaning. By 1728, the abbreviation "bam" had appeared to mean hoax. But a bam without its boozle somehow lacks the charm of the original.

REAL BRITANNIA

What does it mean to be British? PART TWO

VOX
BRITANNIA

How British are you?

Gwynfor Davies, 44, IT consultant, Cardiff
How it feels to be British depends on what's really meant by the term British. It could be one of three things: Ancient British, who are the Welsh; the modern British, which to me means the English; or the people living in Britain, wherever they were born and whoever they may be.

Politicians speak about one-nation conservatism. What they really mean is an English Britain, and this leaves no room for the Welsh and the Scots or their culture. In terms of culture and values, I don't consider myself British in the modern sense at all. I consider myself to be Welsh and then European.

Amy Frazer, 22, barmaid, Peebles
My father is English, my mother is Scottish, but she was brought up in England, and I was born in Scotland and have lived here all my life, so I am a bit of a mixture. A lot of the time I don't feel British. Politically, I think it is fairly embarrassing to be British, really. Britain has done some really terrible things. All this stuff recently with the arms deals for instance, and our colonial past isn't anything to be proud of at all. I think it is embarrassing and disgraceful, the way we support dodgy regimes.

I don't feel British, but I don't feel that your nationality is important. If I'm asked on a form what my nationality is I put down Scottish. Where I was born doesn't affect me. I don't feel part of it, I don't feel any patriotism at all, either for Scotland or Britain.

In terms of devotion, I do think Scotland would be better after it than before. I think the whole situation has to change. But I like living in Scotland. I wouldn't want to live anywhere else in Britain. I'd hate to live in England.

Sir Carol Mather, 79, retired Conservative MP and Second World War veteran, Gloucestershire

One could write an essay on what it means to be British. Up until the end of the war the British Empire still existed. It was the mother country, and the British Empire was there to preserve the whole of the Empire, so national pride was different then.

Being an island surrounded by sea, and not part of a continent, defined our identity. In the past, we were much more definable as a nation than France or Germany.

Until recently, we have always had a foreign enemy: The Cold War, the Falklands War (right) and the Gulf War made us all feel like we were bound to the same objective. These situations brought problems, but they kept everyone together.

I am not in favour of harmonising this country with Europe. We have different food, standards, and culture which have helped to keep us separate. However, Britain has changed enormously.

When I was 18, I was at Cambridge University, and when I was 20, war broke out. There was a great excitement as we were only too keen to go off to the war. It was more excitement than patriotism. I came back in 1943 and Britain was a very bleak and grim scene in those days.

American culture is swamping British culture, because US culture is very easy to export. People always say the country has gone to the dogs, but the older generations always say that. I find the whole pop movement utterly strange.

Interviews by Cayle Williams

Set in a grey delta of motorway slip-roads, on the suburban limits of Prestwich, north Manchester, my local Tesco supermarket is open for 24 hours a day from Monday to Friday. This particular branch of Tesco gives the impression of having been built entirely out of glass and, after dark, when the store is illuminated by white light, any passing motorist could be forgiven for thinking that the aliens had landed and were setting up a new line in bagged salad and Premium theme snacks. With this thought in mind, I have christened my Tesco "the Mothership" - a benign communal centre, supplying the residents of its catchment area with not only recycled loo rolls and tins of dog food, but a seductive range of adult treats which are the perfect accompaniment to watching 24-hour TV. As an efficient symbol of New Britain, and a pretty good example of unintentional installation art, "the Mothership" rules. But 24-hour TV, like Premium theme snacks, begins with the pleasurable wickedness of a feast and ends with the headache of gluttony.

To this end, I prefer to plan my consumption of TV around a few known favourites, stubbornly ignoring the exhortations of the TV critics. In my case, the best television is imported television - most notably the new wave of adult cartoons which has reached the status of fine art with South Park, lately arrived on Channel 4 from Sky One. There is a direct link, I feel, between supermarkets and television - the esplanade of consumerism - and all my favourite TV shows tend to exploit this connection with an insight and an irreverence which could never be wholly British. TV is the global supermarket.

And so, armed with asparagus soup, "home-style" potato salad and a bag of cheese'n'chive Kettle Chips from the Mothership, my big TV night is Friday night, when the cutting edge of foreign television undergoes a strange translation as it hits British screens. With the glorious and barely mentionable inclusions of Italian Stripping Housewives - the dubbed English voices on which create a sordid comedy of manners worthy of Mike Leigh - what swiftly becomes apparent is that imported television has developed a sly ability to perform an unofficial commentary on contemporary Britishness.

I can zap from Italian Stripping Housewives to a video of a re-run of Beavis and Butt-head, thus filling the gap until King of the Hill without accelerating my pulse. The other night, in the video of them watching music videos that I was watching (which must tie in with post-modern theory somewhere) they had Britain in their sights. The sniggering duo were sitting on their ripped sofa as usual, watching a video by some British group. "Aren't these dudes from that country where everything sucks?" remarked Beavis.

Similarly, in the adult cartoon South Park, the children of South Park Elementary would sooner sit next to the red-eyed son of Satan than the British kid, Pip - "Because you're British, asswipe". Pip, dressed in the cap and jacket of the boy hero of Great Expectations, accepts all abuse with a generous good-humour which somehow makes him even more pathetic. But anti-British feeling does not run that high in the mind-set of South Park: in a later episode, when Barbara Streisand is morphed into a rampaging Godzilla, trampling the town under its fire-breathing bulk, it is Robert Smith of British punk group The Cure who is summoned to throw her into outer-space.

Disintegration is the best album



Watch with mothership

CULTURAL BRITANNIA

Michael Bracewell revels in cartoon Britain

ever" cheer the kids as they wave goodbye to their saviour.

Channel-surfing. I find myself watching Men Behaving Badly. The manifesto of Laddism Nouveau, this programme tapped into that trend for male infantilism which is nostalgic for the pop-cultural landscape of its adolescence. Clunes and his sidekick have been scripted into a world where men want their girlfriends, worryingly to be scolding mother figures with whom they can have sex if they behave themselves - like naughty boys receiving a treat. And it is this notion of grown men as naughty boys which has underpinned the marketing of Britishness as a nation of beer and football, where any form of adversarial culture must conform to the Cult Of The Lad, hence the success of Chris Evans as a modern icon. Around two o'clock in the morning, I find myself more receptive to the adverts on television than the programmes, which in the face of early morning programming is hardly surprising. By this time I am receiving information from the telly as though by osmosis: the words and images are simply seeping into my consciousness and meeting with little or no critical resistance. I found myself watching the latest television advert for Mercury One To One cellular telephones. Absorbing the product as though it was a relaxation tape, I was suddenly pulled up short by the way in which Vic Reeves was having a "One To One" with the

great British comedian Terry Thomas, in scenes from the 1960 classic film School For Scoundrels. Reeves interacts with Thomas in a scene which played up the trademark "Englishness" of the latter to a point beyond caricature. It began to occur to me that "Englishness", as a contemporary concept, is now terminally stylised in order to be rehabilitated from any suspicion of either nationalism or anti-multiculturalism.

This idea was compounded a few minutes later, by the latest television advert for Rover cars - which also played on the concept of Britishness. In this advert, suppositions of Britishness had been visually punned into a new, fashionable acceptable version. To an immaculate early-Seventies soundtrack, sourced from vintage Roxy Music, the Rover commercial "re-makes and re-models" (to borrow the title of another early Roxy Music number) a British landscape in which the Edinburgh Taitto becomes the tattooed arm of a young woman at a rave, and a kid munching fast-food on a skateboard becomes an arch reference to Meats On Wheels.

The following day, a piece from the Manchester Evening News made its way into some of the national papers. A 12-year-old girl from a Manchester estate had got pregnant by her 13-year-old boyfriend, because they had got bored with watching the TV coverage of Princess Diana's funeral and decided

to have sex instead. Sobering and sad, this item was precisely the sort of story which lent itself to the current British search for what could be called the New Authenticity. Perhaps this quest for Authenticity - a new word for Realism - is the cultural response to too much irony. It would seem to tie in with the post-Prozac trend for confessional columns in the broadsheet newspapers, and the popularity, since the huge success of Irvine Welsh's novel Trainspotting, of fables of contemporary Britishness in which dysfunctional behaviour is seen as possessing the glamour of street credibility.

Driving through the industrial suburbs of north Manchester, I recalled that the eventual destination of the famous orange and white graphics used to advertise the film of Trainspotting had subsequently been used to advertise a winter sale at French Connection. Thus, a novel about drug addiction and despair could be somehow commodified to sell expensive knitwear. The New Authenticity, in many ways, shows a view of New Britain which is just as constructed and stylised as the post-modern romp through Britishness of the Rover Cars commercial.

Arriving in Leeds, I was trying to find a parking space in a city which used to be defined by Alan Bennett, and is now defined by Harvey Nichols. Leeds is now known as "the Milan of the North", with its restored Victorian arcade and an appearance of well-scrubbed mer-

cantile prosperity. The monumental facade of Leeds City Art Gallery, which is annexed to the Henry Moore Institute, is poised on the rim of the shallow incline which steepens the streets of the city centre. My destination, in the shadow of this imposing gallery, was a tree.

To be more precise, my destination was a particular tree, which might or might not be worth the price of a major artwork. As part of the current Art Transpennine 98 exhibition, which is using the breadth of northern England from Liverpool to Hull as a venue for an international selection of contemporary art, there is a work by the late Joseph Beuys, situated in the Victoria Gardens beside the Henry Moore Institute. This work is the tree which I had decided to visit, planted beside a basalt marker and part of a work which Beuys initiated in 1982 at documenta 8, called 7,000 Oaks.

It occurred to me that, while I was watching the previous night's television, I experienced a distinct feeling of relief whenever they showed one of those brightly-coloured adverts which announced, "It does exactly what it says on the tin". I consulted the note in my exhibition guide: "The combination of a living, growing tree with the immutable presence of stone is one individual's response to the vulnerability of nature in the face of destructive progress."

I looked at the young oak tree and felt that faint twinge of personal inadequacy that we can feel in the presence of something that might be rather spiritual. Beuys's tree is a direct political message to the world. In some ways, it is a hard sell. It does exactly what it says on the tin.

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Who needs a cause celeb?

No fundraising campaign is complete without a celebrity figure to front it. But how do you match the face to the charity without risking a brush with notoriety?
By Lesley Downer

PRINCESS DIANA'S favourite charity, the Red Cross landmines campaign, has found a new figurehead at last: the superstar footballer and heartthrob, David Ginola. He has committed himself to work for the charity for one week a year for the next couple of years, which will enable the Red Cross to shift the emphasis of the campaign on to the rehabilitation of landmine victims, with football as a form of therapy.

John Rendall, social editor of *HELLO!* magazine and high society insider, says Ginola is an astute choice. "To go for a man was very sensible, because there can be no comparison. If it was a beautiful woman, we would ask, 'Is she as well-dressed as the Princess?' Is she as well-informed as the Princess? Is she as compassionate as the Princess?" The answer would have to be "No". But here we have a superstar with a following across the generations. And he has a girlfriend; there's no scandal surrounding him."

Charities have certainly changed since the old days of coffee mornings at the Women's Institute, attended occasionally by avuncular celebrities such as Bob Monkhouse. Bob Geldof began the transformation in the mid-eighties with LiveAid, making charity work something which hip young people might want to do. Then Princess Diana made it glamorous. Now, every charity has its roster of celebrities; and celebrities are eager to be seen to be doing their bit. Carling is in fashion. Nevertheless, the many charities Diana supported are beginning to feel the impact of her loss on their finances.

Queen Noor of Jordan has, in a way, taken on Diana's mantle as the royal figure most closely associated with the landmines campaign. At a conference last weekend in Amman, she agreed to become the patron of the Landmines Survivors' Network, which works in partnership with the Nobel Prize-winning International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL).

"This particular cause for me is a new aspect of a long-term struggle against war and military priorities in the Middle East," she says. "Probably half the landmines in the world are there." She has doubts about the current trend of linking celebrities with causes. "It's still felt by many organisations that if they don't have a visible champion, they can't generate as much in income," she says. "I would hope that all these organisations could in future not depend on personality for success. I would have thought the issue itself is so compelling that you wouldn't need a celebrity; but it's still clear that there is a need to have a visible face."

Nowadays, charities are competing for limited funds and compassion, and celebrities are the most potent



Pamela Anderson: a front for animal rights campaign PETA

weapon in their armoury. The skill is to match the celebrity with the campaign and the charity.

Hilda Kalap, of the British Red Cross, says: "There has to be a way to reach an audience that hasn't been reached before. We're having to be much more creative. The media is led by celebrities and celebrities' lives, and we have to adapt to that."

Charities need celebrities but do celebrities need charities? Actor Nigel Havers, who works for the Red Cross and other charities, says: "Charities use us because people recognise us, otherwise how else do they get their charity mentioned?" When on tour, says Havers, he is continually being called upon by the Red Cross to appear at charity shops and speak at Women's Institute lunches. "I don't mind being used in that way."

Caryn Franklin, until recently presenter of the *Clothes Show*, has supported Oxfam for 12 years - "as long as I've been on telly" - and worked on the Clothes Code Campaign, highlighting the terrible working conditions and pitiful wages of women textile workers in the Third World. "If I thought life was just about reporting on headlines, I would go nuts," she says. "At the end of the day it's women who buy into the fashion industry. Designers are where they are because of women. It's right that the fashion industry should put something back."

Along with designer Amanda Wake-

ley, she was approached to launch the Fashion Targets Breast Cancer campaign two years ago. "I knew I could get the fashion industry on board. I interviewed everyone from Kate Moss to John Galiano and they all said 'Yes'. It just swept the country. The first campaign was a multi-award winner. We had shops waving a mark-up on the charity T-shirts; that's quite unheard of."

Fashions in charities come and go. If you can attract a celebrity with the visibility of Princess Diana, your charity is guaranteed to generate enormous interest. Tibet, Richard Gere's favoured cause, has received huge amounts of publicity because of its high-profile supporters.

PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) has recruited supporters within the fashion industry and is famous for its aggressive advertising campaigns. The "I'd rather go naked than wear fur" adverts featured supermodels in the buff, among them Naomi Campbell, who later appeared in fur, and drew a storm of criticism. Andrew Butler, PETA UK representative, says: "You can't wear your heart on your sleeve and make a public statement like Naomi did, then sell yourself out like that."

PETA was one of the first organisations to use celebrities. "We've become part of popular culture," says Butler. "We're trying to change the culture of fashion. The vast majority of de-

signers wouldn't dream of using fur."

PETA's supporters are not restricted to the fashion industry. Pamela Anderson has appeared on talk shows across the United States to promote the "Turn your back on fur" campaign which she spearheads. Linda McCartney was PETA's first patron, while Kim Basinger is their most dedicated celebrity supporter, representing PETA in the media and intervening directly to stop experiments on animals. Singer Chrissie Hynde hosted a Love-All party with Martina Navratilova at the Hard Rock Cafe on behalf of PETA.

Richard White, of NCH Action For Children, says: "We keep lists of celebrities by hobby. John Inverdale is hosting a corporate hospitality day at Ascot. We looked at his records and discovered that he is part-owner of a racehorse."

Julia Watson, who plays Dr Baz Hayes in *Casualty*, has been a keen supporter of National Children's Homes since they contacted her four years ago. "It's the feeling of giving something back," she says. "One does so little. It's very difficult living in London not to be aware of people sleeping on the street. I feel we lead a very affluent lifestyle here; so whatever one can do. Doing it as a celebrity, you just have to be completely aware of why you're there. If it'll make one person put 50p in a box, that's why you're there."

Hilda Kalap, of the British Red Cross, recalls one occasion when a singer-songwriter contacted her, asking to become involved in a campaign, and made it obvious that he was after the publicity. "We told him it wouldn't work," she says. "We needed someone who was pretty well-known and therefore could take the campaign forward."

All the charities spokespeople insist that the celebrities who support them do not need the publicity; they're famous enough already and only help out of the goodness of their hearts. But then again, as John Rendall of *HELLO!* magazine points out, they would say that, wouldn't they? "It certainly keeps the celebrities in the public eye," he says, adding quickly, "Mind you, charity is so much a part of our life now. Everyone has their favourite charity."

Nevertheless, charities are unlikely to turn down offers of help from even minor celebrities, even if, as Kate Robbins points out, they are actually out-of-work actors hoping to reinvent themselves with a change of image. But does it matter what anyone's motivation is, just so long as the money keeps pouring in? We have had the glamourisation of charity. Perhaps, as Queen Noor hopes, the next phase will be that we will not need a celebrity to focus our minds on a cause. But somehow that seems unlikely.



David Ginola: trans-generation appeal



Naomi Campbell: good skin for anti-fur cause



Queen Noor: glamour and royalty



Nigel Havers: appeals to the older woman



John Inverdale: hobby horse for kids' charity



Caryn Franklin: makes fundraising fashionable

JOYS OF MODERN LIFE

6. THE ELECTRIC NIT-COMB
BY MAUREEN FREELY

To appreciate the beauty of this weapon - and I do think of it as a weapon - you have to know what life was without it. Were you aware that 99.999 per cent of schoolchildren in this country are infested with head lice? Did you know that the ultra-expensive, possibly carcinogenic chemical preparations that are supposed to kill them, don't?

Or maybe it's just my children they don't work on. Tea tree oil, the Natural Alternative, doesn't work on them either. It must work on some children, because people are always recommending it to me. It's not cheap, though. And it smells dire, even if you mix it with lavender oil, which also costs a bomb. The worst part of this epidemic is the advice you get.

I can't go two steps these days without some perfect mother or other noticing a really fat one crawling out of my daughter's hairline, and sighing, "Long hair in little girls is such a liability, isn't it? Wouldn't it be better off with bobs?" Or, even worse, having to hear how she got rid of her problem by sneaking her children's hair with Vaseline and making them wear bath hats for a week.

The zippy little notes slipping into the post folders lately - "Let's all go on the attack this Sunday and see if we can't get rid of this problem for ever!" - offer a less drastic solution. By which I mean, the Second Circle of Hell, instead of the First. It's called wet-combing and here's how you do it. First you have an argument with your spouse about whose turn it is. When it turns out to be your turn - why is it always your turn? - you wash, condition, and detangle your children's hair as per usual. Then you take out a nit-comb

and they try to escape. You drag them screaming and writhing back to the bathroom, and comb living, writhing head lice out of their hair for an hour while they continue to scream. By now, you feel like screaming, so you go upstairs and say something vicious and unforgivable to your spouse.

You're supposed to repeat this every three days until you have gone a fortnight without seeing a single one, and then every five days for the rest of your life. Unless...

The electric nit-comb looks like a cross between a nit-comb and an electric razor. It is not cheap! It comes in a handy little soft case that you can slip into your handbag and it works on dry hair so you can use it anywhere, any time. It makes a high-pitched whine when you turn it on, but every time it electrocutes a head louse, the noise stops. This is your cue to take out the little brush that comes with it, and use it to remove the corpse that you will find hanging limply between the teeth in the comb. I don't know why, but disposing of the dead in this way satisfies a deep and primitive urge.

At least, it does for me. My partner finds the whole routine intensely irritating, because, like all other forms of nitpicking, it doesn't really work. I still maintain that if I use it every morning, I can keep the numbers down. If I use it again in the evening, I can catch the new ones the girls picked up at school. If we're out visiting and see a fat one crawling out of my daughter's hairline, I can zap it before my perfect hostess has the chance to recommend bath hats. And one day, if I'm really lucky, I'll see the nit equivalent of a sumo wrestler crawling out of her hairline. I'll whip out my Robocomb, and tell her to make my day.



REVELATIONS

VICTOR KIAM, NEW YORK, 1958

The lesson that's stuck - because of Velcro

THE FIFTIES was the era of company loyalty - you were given a structure and a direction and it was your job to follow it. So the entrepreneurial thought process, which today is welcomed, was not even allowed to see the light of day. If you raised questions you were criticised for being a maverick.

At 31, I was Vice President of Marketing at Playtex, which specialised in undergarments and girdles. It was a go-ahead company and I felt content until I received a call that would change the way I thought forever. It was from a man I'd never met but who was the husband of a very good friend of my mother-in-law.

John had returned from Europe with some products he thought would be appropriate for my company. Out of his big brown bag came a variety of items, but it was the last one which really captured my imagination. After examining it carefully I was very interested and asked what rights he was selling, and he told me North America. Next I asked the product's name, and he replied Velcro. He explained how the

cotton backing and the nylon hooks worked and I thought it would be useful for the brassiere, rather than fiddling with hooks and eyes.

The terms were \$25,000 for a six-month option to research and make up your mind. I was so excited, I took out my own personal cheque book and wrote a cheque out in the restaurant. It took a lot of conviction but already I could see a phenomenal breakthrough.

I took all the samples home and told my wife. We laid everything out on the dining-room table and started discussing all the possibilities, to present the magnitude of the product to the company. We were still coming up with ideas in bed together - passion was put to one side while we talked Velcro. One thought was keeping me awake: how would it wash? I had a friend who had a large laundry, so he agreed to stick it on hospital gowns and keep washing it. Eventually he called back to tell me they worked fine, so I'm getting more and more excited. I wrote out a huge presentation for the President of the company about all the applications

I came out with more or less everything it was subsequently used on, except trainers - and the costs of buying it from the mills in France or setting them up in the States. He got fairly excited, called in the research and development boys and the company wrote me a cheque to take care of the option. I was relieved because I was a poor guy with a wife and child to support and that cheque had wiped out my entire capital.

The Velcro was taken down to Delaware and Playtex's factory, to put it through its paces. They seemed to take forever and, being impatient, I kept phoning for progress reports. It looked good, but with 100 bras out on tests they needed more time. Finally there was a mass meeting for decision-making in the President's office on the 6th floor of the Empire State Building - the view was amazing. With just a month left of my six-month option, I'm looking forward to this meeting with real anticipation. But I almost fell off my chair. Velcro might work but Playtex would need to invest in capital equipment and become a



supplier to a lot of other companies. The consensus was that we should stick to our knitting and remain a consumer branded product business. I'm in a state of shock. It's like somebody looking at Edison's light bulb and saying, "Who wants to do away with candles?" I thought I had been flown off to Never-Never Land! But the words are flowing out of the President's mouth and everybody is nodding, so it must be true.

I left that meeting with a small

consolation prize: the President's blessing to take the rights to Velcro elsewhere and another month of option. So I decided to do it myself. It was a big leap from being a corporate player and, what's more, I knew nobody in financial circles. But a friend offered to host an evening of potential investors at his Park Avenue apartment. He assembled a group which I only knew from the business pages. After the pitch, myself and John from Velcro were asked to step outside.

For about an hour the two of us were pacing up and down this luxurious dining-room and we hear the door to the living-room open, so we open our door and walk out too. Some of them came over and shook our hands, others smiled. I hit John, "It looks good." My friend invites us to sit down and explains: they loved the product but John had been involved with a failed business and some of these potential investors had lost out. They would work with me but John was out of the question. He refused point-blank to take second fiddle, claiming not to have done any-

thing wrong. I called him the next day but he had other opportunities and my option was up in three days.

Velcro slipped out of my fingers but the lesson I learnt was one that will always stick with me: not to rely on other people's judgement. Next time I'd do it on my own - and that's what I've done.

I hooked myself up to the hilt when I took over Remington; I signed so many personal guarantees that if the company had flopped the bank would have had me in a chain gang. I was so convinced it was not going to fail that I threw everything into it. After Velcro, I had learnt to jump in with both feet. It doesn't mean that my judgement has always been right. I've had failures, but the real skill is how you limit your risks.

I got excited many years ago about a male girdle, because when men get over 40 they begin to spread and why shouldn't they want to eliminate the water wings. I became part of the test panel. However, it was hell to wear and men aren't willing to go through the tortures women will look good. I had a

great name for it too - Potholder!

These days I feel 21, although I'm really 71, and I'm still learning. I have a partner in life, we've been together for 43 years, and a year and a half ago we started talking about what we wanted to do with the rest of our lives. Even coming up the ladder my number one priority was my family.

So I tried retiring to Florida. For the first month it was a pleasure to play tennis every morning and bridge in the afternoon. But each month I enjoyed my freedom less and less. There was nothing tangible that I had to do. My thought process was dead. So I'm back on the ground floor starting things and doing the long-term strategy, the dreaming so to speak. I've given up my retirement because I don't want to switch off the dreams. I've always them, but Velcro taught me to exploit them for myself rather than others.

Andrew G Marshall

Victor Kiam presents a two-part series on Radio 4, 'You Don't Have To Buy The Company', starting this Thursday at 11.30pm.

Music of the spheres

The black arts, high drama, philosophy and poetry. John Harle's opera, *Angel Magick*, set in 16th-century England has it all (even Queen Elizabeth I pops in for tea). And it still manages to break the rules. By Phil Johnson



Above: A 16th century alchemist at work with his assistant. The Elizabethan interest in the occult and alchemy serves as both setting and inspiration for *Angel Magick*.

Mary Evans

The domestic arrangements in the Mortlake home of John Dee, Elizabethan magus and neo-Platonist herald of the English renaissance, might not at first sight seem to provide the ideal setting for a contemporary opera, even if Good Queen Bess is always popping in for tea. What with the poets Sir Philip Sidney and Edmund Spenser arguing the toss, and that Italian philosopher Giordano Bruno putting his ear in, there is an awful lot of ideas to contend with.

And then there's the odd couple, of crusty Dr Dee and his frankly rather difficult assistant, Edward Kelley, always trying to summon up angels with those spells of theirs. What poor old Mrs Dee makes of it, God knows, and she's not looking too well either, if you ask me.

But out of this late-16th century soap, the composer John Harle and his librettist David Pountney have made an opera of the proper sort, and one which almost breaks the rules of the genre by appearing to work as drama as well as music. Spells are cast, angels are summoned, and the characters exchange views on the music of the spheres and other recondite

matters, but as singers and actors in a theatrical space they succeed in holding your attention. And although the piece deals with complex ideas in a fairly complex manner, it remains clear and direct almost throughout, even if a little background reading would enhance a greater appreciation of the historical background.

Given a sneak preview as part of the Salisbury Festival in May, *Angel Magick* proved to be a resounding success. The staging, by Sarah Leonard as Queen Elizabeth, William Purrey as Sidney, Jacqueline Mura as Spenser, Andrew Forbes-Lane as Bruno, and Donald Maxwell as Kelley, was particularly fine, and Christopher Good in the non-singing role of Dr Dee provided a satisfyingly down-to-earth centre for the airy perorations of the other principals to revolve around. The music – by the Bauhaus Band and Fretwork, conducted by Harle himself – served the purposes of the drama admirably, and it remained suitably rigorous in its attention to historical detail while never descending into the kind of cod-Elizabethan pastiche that could have been expected. Only the taped voice that was used to declaim the equivalent of chapter headings at the

beginning of each movement (which follow an astrological sequence of planets) jarred a little, sounding perhaps a little too close to Mastermind for comfort.

On the morning of the first of the two performances at Salisbury, John Harle could be heard as the guest on *Desert Island Discs*, and his incredibly wide-ranging selections perhaps provide a clue to *Angel Magick*'s musical influences. As a schoolboy at the Royal Grammar School in Newcastle-upon-Tyne he traces his love of history to being taught there by William Weaver, now *The Observer*'s art critic. In the late Sixties, Harle fell under the spell of Pentangle, the pop-folk group whose guitarist, John Renbourn, used to play a number of transcriptions from both Elizabethan and Jacobean sources.

The *Desert Island* selection also included a tune by The Beatles, testifying to Harle's abiding belief in melody; a piece by Duke Ellington, whose alto saxophonist Johnny Hodges' limply beautiful tone was one of the reasons Harle took up the saxophone (still considered a rather vulgar arrival in the classical world) as well as the clarinet; and an excerpt from one of Harrison Birtwistle's most confrontational works, the mini-

opera *Punch and Judy*, whose proud dissonances must have led to pre-Sunday lunch panic attacks in the kitchens of the nation.

When Harle performed Birtwistle's *Ponic* – one of 16 concerti written specially for him – at the Proms in 1985, he experienced the perils of the avant garde at first hand. Famously, the performance



John Dee, Elizabethan occultist

was booed by a noisy coterie of fogies. Harle first met Birtwistle as an actor-musician at the National Theatre in the late Seventies (where the composer was the NTS music director), following an unusual background where he served as a bandman with the Coldstream Guards

before entering the Royal College of Music (he is now a professor of saxophone at the Guildhall). But despite his long established working relationship with Birtwistle, Harle retains an almost evangelical faith in tonality, and it is from this – as much as anything else – that *Angel Magick* stems. "At the heart of my music is a belief in tonality, and what was originally thought of as the science of music," Harle says. "It's the Pythagorean concept that there is a tonality in each of us; a belief in music as it appears in nature."

This regard for music as, well, music, is reflected in Harle's interest in popular forms, including jazz. He writes soundtracks for film and television (including *Silent Witness*) and performs with the jazz saxophonist Andy Sheppard in *Twentieth Century Saxophones*. His last major recording, *Terror and Magnificence*, included a collaboration with Elvis Costello. On *Desert Island Discs*, Harle also owned up to dark feelings about English culture. "English folk traditions have always interested me," he says. "Early pagan animal rituals; the theme of Arcadia in England; the Green Man, and the more secretive side of Englishness, such as the elements of Egyptology brought in

by the Freemasons and the Victorians. In secret societies magic and alchemy were subversive forces, and I'm really fascinated by alchemy, the idea of making something out of nothing. The definitions of music and magic – and once music was magic – aren't far from each other. It's not just basic academic stuff that interests me in *Angel Magick*, but the idea of creating a fantasy about these people."

For Harle, the models for his opera (which is his first) are more Brecht and Weill than Shakespeare and Dowland. "There are elements of Elizabethan music, but it's as if they're seen through a veil. What I can't bear in opera is the stagnant drama of it, so my music plays right up to the action." In *Angel Magick*, which could be subtitled "Dr Dee's Casebook", the mundane and the metaphysical are mixed "very effectively. The old gent tries to summon up an angel, while in the material world of Mortlake everything around him is falling apart. And whoops, there goes the doorbell. It must be Good Queen Bess."

Angel Magick, music by John Harle, libretto by David Pountney, is at the Albert Hall as part of the Proms tonight.

RODERIC DUNNETT

Closet drama

IS KING Roger the great unsung gay opera? Might it even fall foul of Clause 28? As the late Christopher Palmer pointed out, the experiences that fired its composer, Karol Szymanowski, to write it date from the same period as Thomas Mann's, which inspired the latter to create the character of von Aschenbach in *Death in Venice*. And Pentheus, the central figure in Euripides' masterly last play, *The Bacchae*, on which Szymanowski and his librettist Jaroslaw Iwaskiewicz

OPERA

KING ROGER
SYMPHONY HALL
BIRMINGHAM

based the opera, was undoubtedly besotted by the Dionysiac appeal of the alien intruder, as he was in a more recent version, Henze's *The Bassarids*, based on a jazzed-up, similarly Klimtian text by WH Auden and Chester Kallmann.

King Roger, as it stands, is frankly a psychological muddle. Even Szymanowski, with a homosexual novel and a clutch of alluring, exotic and Oriental or Hellenic subjects behind him, was searching musically by this time for something fresh, which ultimately led him to Polish folk music. Yet he gave to the opera some of the most wonderful music he ever composed. And every note heard in the dazzling performance by Sir Simon Rattle and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra with the CBSO chorus confirmed this.

It is in short a wonderful and spectacular opera. True, Rattle has a few problems which need ironing out before the crucial recording sessions this coming week. A few of the orchestral transitions can be more luminous still; the violin sound, often glorious, can also be less focused than the cellos and alert double basses; the woodwind, surprisingly, is not yet as deft as the brass.

But the meticulously prepared, hard-working chorus made superb work of Szymanowski's eerie, distanced Bacchic choruses. What's more, some first-rate soloists were in evidence: Philip Langridge as Edris is the one who has most ably got under the skin of this extraordinary composer. Elzbieta Smytka gave her gorgeous best to Queen Roxana's searing vocals, but Ryszard Minkiewicz needs to shed some of his stiffness if he is to inherit the mantle of Wieslaw Ochman as the sensual shepherd who wins the persuasive King's eye. Thomas Hampson, is a natural for the demanding role of the King; indeed, in the forthcoming recording, he may well redefine it.

Comic timing to make your mouth water

I MUST apologise. I try to see every play with an open mind, but I must admit that I went to *The Man Who Came to Dinner* fogged by prejudice. I felt certain I would enjoy myself. I didn't... I had a ball.

There is so much frantic coming and going in Mr and Mrs Stanley's comfortably furnished Ohio home (circa 1939), that you are reminded of the madcap mayhem of Frank Capra's classic movie, *You Can't Take It With You*. So you should be. Both were written by George S Kaufman and Moss Hart. The combination of Kaufman's inspired lunacy (he wrote for the Marx Brothers), and Hart's theatrical finesse (he directed *My Fair Lady*), resulted in a masterpiece of comic structure which builds a triumphant farce plot, filled to bursting with firecracker dialogue.

Take the opening. Sheridan Whiteside fractured his hip

THEATRE
THE MAN WHO CAME
TO DINNER
BARBICAN
LONDON

slipping on the Stanley's front step and has been confined to a wheelchair. Instead of a laborious expository scene, we are immediately plunged into comedy panic with everyone absolutely agog, awaiting the re-emergence of the critic, raconteur, and radio personality, Sheridan Whiteside, whose global reputation is matched only by his girth and arrogance. The doors to the library fly open and Whiteside looms into view. Everyone holds their breath. After what seems like an eternity, he barks, "I may vomit." The household gasps and the audience collapses.

Without wishing to sound like your least favourite relative, they "don't write 'em like this

any more". Nor, you would think, do they play them like they should. Wrong. Chicago's Steppenwolf company does. Their enormous reputation for ensemble acting rests on heavyweight company-devised pieces like the acclaimed *Orphans* or adaptations such as *The Grapes of Wrath*, but they are so at home in this exercise in hilariously controlled chaos that you would think they had been playing comedy all their lives.

It isn't just that they don't have to struggle with the American accents, but that these immensely skilled actors have timing to die for. Everyone in the 18-strong cast knows how to milk a line, build a gag or make a meal out of an entrance or an exit.

Thanks to the inventive direction of James Burrows – co-creator and director of *Cheers* – everyone has a superb physical approach to character. Linda Kimborough's ramrod-



John Mahoney as Whiteside Gervant Lewis

backed nurse gets laughs every time she scurries across the room like a demented beagle on wheels.

Shannon Cochran is sublimely funny as the vamp actress, Lorraine Sheldon, getting more laughs (and character detail) out of checking her

make-up in her powder compact than you'd imagine to be humanly possible. The entire production is full of joyous comic business in the tiniest moments. Christian Stolte gets a round of applause for his silent appearance as a radio technician. The stage direction

reads: "he drifts into the room, plugs into the control board, drifts out again." Stolte struts in, clocks the gorgeous Sheldon, trips, catches the flying sound desk, crashes into the radio, knocks over a pot plant and collapses off-stage. See what I mean?

As the self-obsessed Whiteside, John Mahoney (the grouchy father in *Frasier*) starts out sounding like a thin man struggling in a fat role, but he rattles out the non-stop vituperative one-liners like a veteran and, threatened with the loss of his secretary (the excellent Harriet Harris), becomes deliciously Machiavellian.

And then there's Ross Lehman doing a disgracefully funny Noel Coward impersonation and Alan Wilder's Groucho Marx and... oh hell, just go and see for yourself. Until Sat. (0171-638 8891)

DAVID BENEDICT

Hancock's half hour too little

THERE ARE people around who still deny that a pianist, as well as a piano, can have an individual tone. "How can it be?" they ask. "The hammer strikes the string; the fingers merely set the mechanics in motion." And, technically, they have a point. But they would have been suitably shamed at the Barbican Centre on Saturday night, when jazz pianist Herbie Hancock demonstrated the importance of being Herbie with the very first note he struck. You could give this man a Bechstein, a Yama-

JAZZ
HERBIE HANCOCK
QUARTET
BARBICAN
LONDON

ha or a knocked out wreck from a junior school in Tring; something in that incisive attack but refined after-ring would tell you exactly whose fingers were setting the mechanics in motion.

After a support set of mildly moody, largely groove-based fusion from guitarist Tony Remy's British group, the

Berbie Hancock Quartet played an hour and a half of diverse compositions but few surprises, mixing standards (Cole Porter's "I Love You") with converted pop tunes from Hancock's "The New Standard" album (Peter Gabriel's "Mercy Street"). Once the quartet found its head of steam, it became clear what a well-integrated and aware operation the pianist had put together. Craig Handy sounded best struggling with the idiosyncrasies of the difficult soprano saxophone. On tenor, he was devastatingly proficient

but a little blunt and unaffected. Bassist Kenny Davis played some of the best solos of the evening, despite sacrificing his instrument to the carelessness of baggage handlers on the trip over; and drummer Gene Jackson sounded modern and exciting, particularly when moving down off the cymbals to play busy tides of rhythm, as much to do with "pulse" as swing.

Hancock himself had arrived in garrulous mood, telling stories and making jokes, but soon learned that in London

time is money, jazz legend or no jazz legend. At one point he fell into an odd introspection whilst studying the mineral data on his water bottle, until audience members began shouting "Come on Herbie!"

The set built steadily in intensity, climaxing with an exquisite performance of Hancock's own "Maiden Voyage", in which the leader aimed a 40-year career-worth of harmonic sophistication into some shudderingly beautiful piano playing. This was Hancock at his very best,

keeping you on the edge of your seat with a barrage of displaced accents and edgy twists and turns. And then, bar the encore, that was that. It is so often true of contemporary jazz that after the band has made friends with the room and found its thread for the evening, the second set is the best. It is just a pity that at these large concert venues, more often than not there isn't one.

LINTON CHISWICK

This review appeared in later editions of yesterday's paper

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A fountainhead of emptiness

A historical account of the world's most famous video artist – Bruce Nauman – is well worth going to see: if only for the insight it gives into the depths of guff and ennui that affluent society produced in the Sixties. By Richard D North

Just now, we have two wonderful opportunities to see the fatuousness of a much-vaunted modern medium. Each makes you long for the paint, pen and pencil of old. They come close to banishing one's interest in any art which has to be installed and yearn for anything which needs no more than a few nails in a wall.

The first is a mostly historical account of the world's most famous video artist. The Hayward Gallery's newest show, Bruce Nauman, breaks nearly every rule of what makes art a worthwhile adventure. On those grounds alone, it is worth seeing out of any proportion to its likelihood of delivering pleasure. It displays no creativity, little purpose and less insight. But it is a fascinating example of the levels of guff and ennui that affluent society started producing in the Sixties. If you were not there the first time round, it is worth seeing one of the fountainheads of the emptiness which afflicts a good deal of our art.

It is, in case you had not heard, a mostly retrospective exhibition of a series of video installations (and some flat jokes in neon) whose main preoccupation is faces closely observed while the mouths speak repetitively. There are variations. In one, *Raw Material - OK, OK, OK*, Mr Nauman's head is seen spinning on several screens. In some of these, he appears to be spinning on his head. Most of the material looks as though it had been captured on surveillance camera. It is therefore ugly and forensic. This blurry and monochrome medium is virtually incapable of loveliness, which seems to suit the artist's gloomy intent. Sometimes, the mood seems to be that of an animal experimenter's movie, rescued for use in anti-vivisectionist propaganda.

I hope I have not made the works seem interesting in this description of them. These cameras observe and stare, but they do not reveal anything. They give us a narrow-cast TV show of extraordinary tedium, delivered to us in an environment in which we cannot even sit comfortably or get up to make tea during the commercials.

The Nauman show is not offensive in the sense that it demeans its subjects or viewers in the way that plenty of broadcast television can. But it makes its own vivid case for considering the opportunity cost (the "life is too short" consideration) of being in one gallery when there is good stuff elsewhere. If you go to the Tate after the Hayward, you can see Lucian Freud's latest paintings. These are far more disturbing than anything by Nauman, and (having been painted in the last few years) most are far more modern. Mr Nauman makes one grateful even for Francis Bacon (late of the Hayward himself): Bacon's images were equally grim, and arguably perversely so, but that artist at least went on a real mission of exploration. He chucked some talent at his enterprise.

If you thought art ought to be uplifting, as in "cheerful", you could go from the Freud to the Patrick Heron, where there is great joyfulness and celebration, if lightweight artistry. If you wanted to see self-consciously "modern" work by a youngish artist, you could go and see the Chagalls



Above, 'Mirror of Water' (1998) by Mariko Mori: no more spiritually engaging than the latest trick in a planetarium. The transition from analogue to digital seems not to have made video into anything like an interesting medium. Below, 'Anthro/Socio' (1991) by Bruce Nauman: these cameras observe and stare, but do not reveal anything

at the Royal Academy, and see the derivative lifted to genius.

You might say all that art is either old or traditional. But in what spirit do we now go and see these Nauman works of urban angst, by a man who is alive and living the rural idyll as cattle rancher and horse whisperer in New Mexico, who helped invent the installation art which is still thought cutting edge, but whose own work is now old hat? Perhaps we should see them as a slice of very contemporary history. In much the same spirit, one might go and see the Warhol stuff at the Tate. But the Warhol is surprisingly refreshing, and – remarkably – rewards a visit in spite of having become the most reproduced set of clichés of our day.

The Naumans have not performed this trick of re-acquiring the power to surprise or seem serious. Nor have they acquired retro-chic of the kind Tony Bennett discovered he had at Glastonbury, when a generation enjoyed being able to say they had perhaps been foolish to mock their parents and grandparents for preferring swing to beat. They have not even acquired the fond joke status accorded any fashion, however absurd or ugly it was the first time round. These works are not the flares and tank-tops of the art world.

If Nauman's work was once exciting, it has acquired dullness with age. Of course, some people will find great seriousness in these pieces. One writer, Tim Adams, has suggested that Nauman's work equates "with the undirected neuroses of our times, a kind of white noise of anxiety". Certainly Nauman used to concentrate on a sort of sub-clinical misery, and now gives us an emotionless enunciation of the dull or confused. His work may cause depression in a few spectators, and resonate with the designer despair of a few more. I even saw the only deliberately up-beat piece inspire appreciative hilarity in one couple, and marvelled at them. But that does not at all mean this stuff has its finger on anything very serious in society at large.

The work is part of the process whereby bits of the media and much of the arts industry have done their best to persuade us that chronic anxiety and misery are now endemic in the population. The arts are bound to concentrate on exceptional – and exceptionally awful – states of mind. But that is also why the "normals" need to challenge them vigorously: we need not and should not accept, in a sheeplike way, that civilisation's gone down the tubes, and us with it.

By all accounts, Mariko Mori's work, on show at the Serpentine, is overtly intended to be cheerful. It is, after all, in part an account of the digital age's response to Bhuddism, with its enchantments and smiling garishness much to the fore. In many of the images, Mori herself (a one-time fashion model and designer) appears as a digitised Barbie doll with more than a hint of the alien inter-galactic traveller, and the catalogue waxes eloquent about the invented woman, and the self-imagining of the age. In *Entropy of Love*, the artist has made herself into a

weird Lolita-like child-woman, but the image is not very joyful. It seems to speak of the anorexic and the wilful immaturity of the frightened female. The image reminds one how curiously desperate and flakey those women can seem who take refuge in being "kookie".

It is true that *Nirvana* (for which one wears 3D specs) is quite thrilling: Mori chants and does hand-sculptures while little musicians wait about and a bubble emerges from the artist's nostril and comes out, and out, until one believes it might pass over the viewer's shoulder.

All in all, Disney could not have done better if they had thought to invoke the idea of an oriental My Little Pony interrupting a tea ceremony to have a seance. But it really is no more spiritually engaging than the latest trick in a planetarium. Its technology is put to slightly better use than would be its appearance in a blockbuster movie, or theme park, but not much.

What is interesting in Mori's work is that the transition from analogue to digital seems not to have made video into anything like an interesting medium. The images are getting a little closer to something like the density of colour and delineation of form that paint or celluloid can deliver.

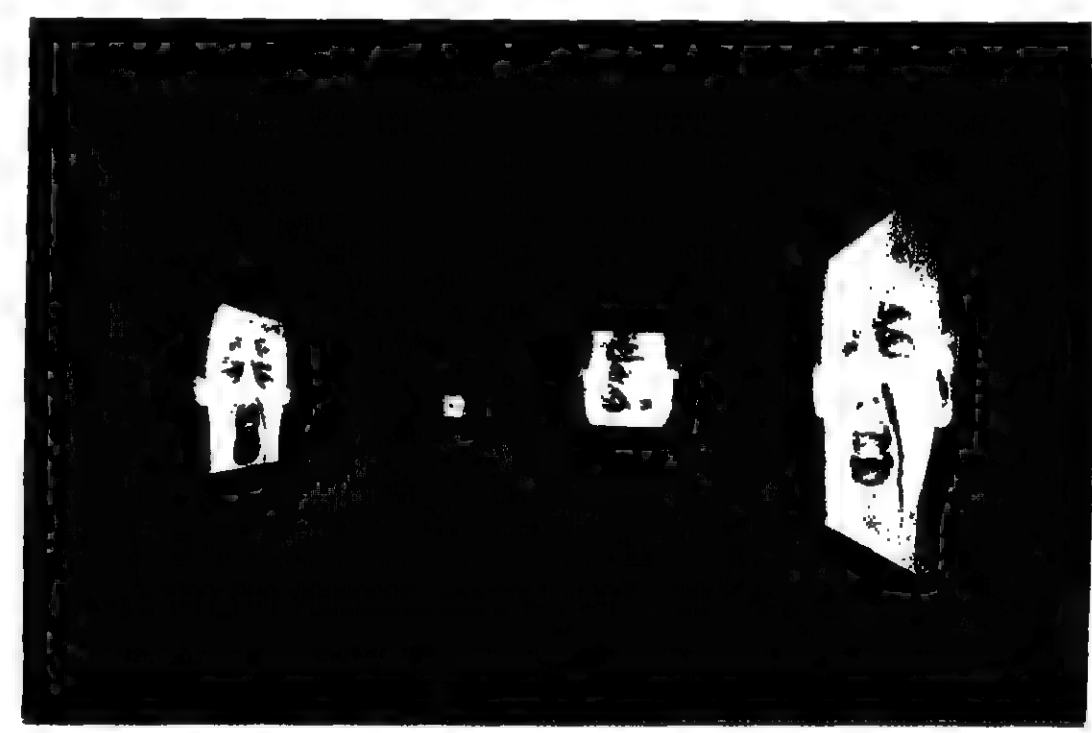
But the ability seamlessly to manipulate "reality", which is as challenging to our ideas of art as biotechnology is to our ideas of nature, is put to no real work here. Mori manipulates conventional images, as in *Entropy of Love*, where she st-

perimposes on a desert scene images of a wind farm. The largeness of scale of the thing, and the delineation of the detail, is breathtaking, until one realises that it is as vacuous as the over-rated mountain-and-message work of Ed Ruscha (currently at the Anthony d'Offay Gallery). I would not mind looking at big pictures of either deserts or wind-farms, or even of dirty pseudo-religious symbols, but putting the whole lot together is no more than tricksy.

The most perfect antidote to this

stuff? In the Albemarle Gallery you can see, for the second time, just four egg tempera still lifes by Antony Williams (the man who painted the Queen's fingers as sausages). Tiny, quiet, deliberate, composed; there is no gimmickery here, just artistry.

Hayward Gallery (0171-921 0600) open daily 10am-6pm, and until 8pm Tues and Wed; Bruce Nauman until 6 September. Tate Gallery (0171-887 8000) open daily, 10am-5.30pm; Lucian Freud, until 26 July, Warhol and Beuys until 20 September. Patrick Heron until 6 September. Royal Academy of Arts (0171-960 5226) open daily 10am-6pm, and until 8pm Tues and Wed; Chagall, Love and the Stage, until 4 October. Serpentine (0171-402 4100) open 10am-6pm daily; Mariko Mori until 9 August. Blains Fine Art (0171-495 5050). Anthony d'Offay (0171-499 4100) is open 10am-5.30pm, Mon-Fri, 10am-1pm Sat; Ed Ruscha, until 30 July. Albemarle (0171-499 1616) 9.30am-5.30pm Mon-Fri, 10am-4pm Sat; The Annual Still Life Show, until 1 August.



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JULY 24

THE INDEPENDENT COLLECTOR
JOHN WINDSOR'S GUIDE TO BUYING AFFORDABLE MODERN ART

HOW DOES Turner Prize nominee Cathy de Monchaux's sculpture grab you? Mostly by its claws and clamps, hooks and screws. "Evidently Not" (1995), shown here, which is regarded as one of her signature works, is only 18cm long. The same decorative, meticulous detail appears as motifs in her big installations.

Decorative? Well, yes, but what is that pink, sensitive-looking leather thing, painfully clamped in the middle? Answers on a postcard.

De Monchaux was a contemporary of Damien Hirst at Goldsmiths College, but he was on the BA course, she on the MA. She is his senior by five years, but her work could be a generation apart. Although she exhibited in his ground-breaking "Freeze" show in 1987 – which, to some, classes her as a YBA – the show does not appear in her CV, and she was never part of Hirst's social circle. Nor was her work in last year's "Sensation" exhibition.

There is only one "bad girl" among this year's Turner nominees, and that is the Sensation artist Sam Taylor-Wood. De Monchaux belongs, at 37, to a less wild, more thoughtful, post-Sensation genera-

Cathy de Monchaux's 'Evidently Not' (1995)

tion. She makes impact not by the shock-horror of a single outrageous image, but by allowing a juxtaposition of different shapes, materials and colours, all rich in association, to provide different responses in different people. Confusing and disturbing though it may be, it is a more polite form of art.

It is probably unfair to try to interpret her work. It could spoil the fun. But a recurring formula of hers is a juxtaposition of references to a past culture with biological forms. For instance, in "Evidently Not", the tracery made from cold, bright brass (which she cut with just a jigsaw and drill) is Gothic in style and has a religious flavour. Its claw-

shapes seize the warm, fleshy leather of the penis/vagina. Fetishism? It's up to you.

De Monchaux's show at the Whitechapel last year established her reputation in this country, but she has shown more in America and Europe than in Britain. Her works cost between £2,000 for a six-inch sculpture to £20,000 for an installation. They sell fast and there is a waiting list. When I telephoned her gallery, Sean Kelly, in New York, I was offered one of an edition of 13 of her little frogs in cast silver, for \$9,500. She will no doubt be working her jigsaw blunt before the Turner prize is announced on 1 December.

Sean Kelly (00-1212 343 2405)

GALLERY 198
Brixton, London

IF THE public won't go to the gallery, then the gallery must go to the public. That is the reasoning of Gallery 198 in south London, set to transform a derelict urban site in central Brixton into an eye-catching, temporary art installation, to coincide with Gallery Week.

Gallery 198 was set up 10 years ago, in response to the Brixton riots, with the ambitious and well-intentioned aim of helping to heal social wounds and promote inter-cultural appreciation. "The gallery is non-Euro-centric, and aims to show the work of contemporary artists from diverse cultural backgrounds," explains Paul Howard from 198.

The current exhibition shows the work of Anglo-Chinese artists and was commissioned at the time of the hand over of Hong Kong to China. A cuddly replica of the cartoon character, Hong Kong Phooey, pinned to the ground with acupuncture needles, is by artist Mayling To, while one

whole gallery space has been transformed into a dense forest of unfurled till rolls from the artist Susan Pui San Lok's father's Chinese takeaway.

Add to these two huge feet on a bed of played fish against a startlingly purple background, an enormous eagle set against a thunderous sky and an array of figures, and contemporary icons will scream out for attention. Whether those passing will appreciate the art, however, remains to be seen.

The Black Angels Art Project, Raleigh House, Saltoun Road, Brixton, London SW2
KATE MIKHAIL

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HEALTH

We all know that
they're hostile,
violent and
uncontrollably
mad, don't we?
We couldn't be
more wrong.

By Roger Dobson

SUE MAYHEW would like everyone to know that she is not at all a violent person. She is an artist, a writer and a poet; she has two pet ponies, and she lives quietly and peacefully in rural Gloucestershire.

And yet 34-year-old Sue also suffers from schizophrenia, so she shouldn't she be violent? Aren't all people like her hostile, violent, unpredictable and uncontrollably mad?

Well, no, they are not. In fact violence is far more likely from someone within the family or from a man without a mental problem, than from a schizophrenic stranger. Statistically we are all 400 times more likely to die of flu this year than to be killed by a mentally ill patient.

But, despite that, schizophrenics such as Sue have become the new lepers of society, who face daily discrimination, who risk having their children taken into care, and who are shunned by employers. If schizophrenia were a nationality rather than a disease, the Race Relations Board would be one of Britain's biggest industries.

Somehow, in the furor over the perceived failings in community care, it is schizophrenics who have emerged as the villains. Over the first few years of care in the community, schizophrenia has become a condition both feared and despised. It is the only disease, other than those that are sexually transmitted, which attracts hostility rather than sympathy. This is exacerbated every time there is news of a violent act involving a mentally ill patient, such as the official inquiry report last month on Richard Lindford, who battered to death Christopher Edwards, a fellow schizophrenic.

Tomorrow the report of another formal inquiry into a killing is due to be released. That investigation, into the circumstances in which Danny Eske from Southampton killed his mother, is expected to highlight problems in the care of the 18-year-old and make various recommendations.

It is likely that there will be more criticism for care in the community, but for Sue and sufferers like her the effect will be that once again they will be thrown on to the defensive.

It is estimated that one in 100 people suffers with schizophrenia, and a problem with the illness is that the symptoms are complex and vary in range and intensity between patients.

"Schizophrenia is a psychotic disorder, which means people who suffer from it have serious psychotic disturbances, the most significant of which are hallucinations and delusions," says Dr George Szankler, medical director of the Maudsley Hospital. "Delusions are beliefs that are not supported by any testing of reality or by any evidence. There may also be disturbances of thinking, so that the patient becomes difficult to understand; thoughts become incoherent. Patients may feel their thoughts are accessible to everyone else, or that thoughts are being inserted into their mind by an external agency or person, or that thoughts are being removed from their mind. They can have very bizarre experiences."



Many schizophrenics, such as Sue Mayhew of Gloucestershire, pose no threat whatsoever to the community they live in

John Lawrence

Are schizophrenics the lepers of our time?

The causes of schizophrenia are still a mystery, despite decades of research and speculation. Genetic factors, brain abnormalities, family problems, social deprivation, adversity, stress and traumatic life events have all been looked at. The latest thinking is that some people

It is estimated that one in 100 people suffers with schizophrenia

may be predisposed to the illness, but that environmental factors are important as well, and so, too, are life events.

Last week Christopher Gates, a furniture polisher, went to court to claim compensation from the hypnotist Paul McKenna, who, he alleges, turned him into a schizophrenic. The 30-year-old says that he was hypnotised at a show in

High Wycombe and that nine days later he was admitted to hospital with an acute episode of schizophrenia. Mr McKenna denies the claim and says that the illness was not caused by hypnosis.

About one in four sufferers will be cured, but for most their symptoms will be kept under control with anti-psychotic medication or major tranquillisers, backed up by psycho-social counselling - which is aimed partly at reducing the likelihood of their omitting to take their medication.

Most of these sufferers, men and women who will need to take medication for the rest of their lives, find it difficult to understand why their illness should attract such hostility.

"I think that people have tremendous fear of the insane. They are seen as somehow being not understandable and unpredictable, and are worrying. At the same time, people also have a worry about the little crazy bits within themselves," says Dr Szankler.

"The hysteria we get has to do with the perception that care in the

community has resulted in more people being violent and endangering ordinary community members. There is no evidence for that at all; there is nothing to show that there has been an increase in violence by people with a mental illness or an increase in homicides compared with the ordinary population.

"It is important for people to recognise that the vast majority of people with a mental illness live happily in the community. They do clinically better, or at least no worse, than they did in the large hospitals, and their quality of life is vastly improved."

Back in Gloucestershire, Sue says that people need to be better informed, and to be more questioning about sensational reports. "There is an awful lot of alarmism that comes with the diagnosis of schizophrenia, and there is a sensationalist approach to reporting the cases of violence."

"We are much misunderstood and discriminated against. Schizophrenic parents are no more of a risk to their children than so-called normal parents but they risk having

their children taken away from them. I have had two friends who killed themselves as a result of the way they were treated."

"I find it very upsetting. I do my best to put people straight about schizophrenia but there is an awful lot of ignorance and fear. Society has

'The vast majority of people with a mental illness live happily in the community'

to have underdogs, I suppose, and I think that at the moment we fulfil that role."

Dr Peter Chadwick, who was also diagnosed as having schizophrenia, has been campaigning to improve the image of the illness and its sufferers.

Dr Chadwick, aged 52, was plunged into a surreal world where he thought people were talking

about him, and that "The Organisation" was trying to make him commit suicide. He is now cured, has married Jill, now 48, whom he met while recovering, lectures on psychology, and has written a book about positive attitudes to schizophrenia.

He argues, "Schizophrenic people should be treated like people with any other illness, and treated appropriately and treated with dignity. Community involvement in the understanding and acceptance of schizophrenic people is vital because community paranoia will ease as people get more knowledge of people who are 'different'. Ignorance, after all, is the fuel of fear."

We should also dispense with stereotypical images of schizophrenia, he says. "When we think of all schizophrenics as potential murderers, we should reflect on the fact that gentle, intelligent people such as Van Gogh, Ravel, Stravinsky and Tennessee Williams all showed paranoid or schizotypal traits."

'Schizophrenia: the Positive Perspective' by Peter Chadwick (Routledge, 15.99)

SICK NOTES

WILLIAM HARTSTON

A SPOKESMAN for the Thai Transplantation Society has condemned a newspaper story about a man who offered to sell a kidney in order to pay off his mortgage. Sanchai Thongpajit, 65, has announced that he will sell his kidney to the highest bidder, and is hoping to get at least 1 million baht (£15,000). Dr Kittichai Luangtaviton described the offer as "immoral and criminal according to the universal standard".

THE UNIVERSITY of California, San Francisco, is under attack from animal rights groups for a planned experiment in which loud noises will be played at six anaesthetised squirrel monkeys which will subsequently be killed and their brains dissected to examine the effects of hearing loss. The UCSF scientists say the monkeys will not hear the noise or feel any pain. A university animal research committee judged the experiment to be humane and "of benefit to scientific understanding".

NO-SMOKING can damage your health - in the short term. According to a paper in *Nature*, the average number of accidents on No Smoking Day (the second Wednesday in March) between 1987 and 1996 was 575.8, compared with 553.4 on the preceding Wednesday and 519.1 on the Wednesday following. But the author of the article, Andrew J. Waters, said that this small increase "doesn't even get close to outweighing the long-term health benefits in quitting smoking".

"OLDER PEOPLE need to be forthright and assertive," Dr David Weeks has concluded after a 10-year study of youthful-looking people. "If that means growing old disgracefully, I am all for it." Dr Weeks has been researching a group he dubs the "superyoung", who look and feel younger than they are. The secret of superyouth, he says, is "to be active in mind and body and pay a lot of attention to your sex life". Dr Weeks is 54.

ACCORDING TO a study published in the *British Medical Journal*, there is a strong link between financial worries and the onset of mental disorders such as anxiety and depression. Financial stress was found to be a "powerful independent predictor" of both the onset and the maintenance of mental disorder. Poverty and unemployment were also found to be linked to the persistence of anxiety and depression - but not to its onset.

A SURVEY by a health care company in the US says doctors do the right things only about half the time. "It was amazing to me," Dr Lee Newcomer, director of United Healthcare, told Reuters. "I practised as a physician for 10 years and I always was under the assumption that I was doing things correctly 95 per cent of the time." He says that most of the errors, such as not prescribing the right drugs, and omitting to run the right tests - are caused by forgetfulness rather than incompetence.

When phone rage is the only rational response

MRS THATCHER'S "Me First" economy is still ripping us off, creating a drip, drip, drip, of depression and anger. There is a cumulative adverse effect on our well-being of the hidden extras and mark-ups encountered in so many of our transactions.

As part of the laborious process of "getting on to the Net" last week (in fact, I have still slipped through it, I had to get advice from a company called Locomotive Software, on a 0891 number at 50p a minute. Rather than getting through to a person, I was greeted by a recorded message, read at snail's pace.

"This is the support line for Locoscript Professional. Locoscript PC and local links for Windows. Calls to this line are charged at 50p per minute. We recommend that you call from a phone at which you can use your PC and that you have the programme you are calling about running on your PC. Please hold for a support assistant. Please hold for a moment."

I paid 25p (30 seconds) to hear this totally unnecessary message. When the Locomotive operative did finally come on the line, I am afraid I flipped. Foaming at the mouth, I said something like "You bastards. Not satisfied with keeping me waiting for a minute, you charge me to do so."

Understandably, the man said he was not prepared to be abused, and ended the conversation.

Phoning back in a more sweet-tempered voice, I asked to speak to the supervisor and Howard Fisher, managing director of the company, came on the line. An assertive and interrogative man, he admonished me for calling his employee a bastard. "Bastards," I ranted, "I was referring to the organisation, not the individual" - and tried to justify the message.

Mr Fisher replied that callers needed to be informed what software was dealt with by this line, warned that the calls cost 50p a minute (at 50p a minute) and reminded to have their PCs to hand.

He also suggested that I contact the 0891 regulator, but it is increasingly obvious (if it was ever obscure) that these Ofs (OfTel, OfGas etc) are toothless cronies. Most of us have anyway got better things to do than spend our time writing to bodies that so manifestly do not really represent our interests.

Mr Fisher told me that at the end of the recorded message it says that if we call again we can press "9" to avoid having to listen to the whole message again. But, quite simply, this was not true: no such statement was on his recorded message. "Oh," said Mr Fisher. "Well, it might not be on the specific number you called."

It would be wonderful if this experience were merely a one-off, but in a thousand other ways, both small and large, we are paying more than we should. Our cars are much more expensive than the equivalent models in Europe and our mobile phone charges are similarly inflated. It used to be the case

BRITAIN ON THE COUCH



OLIVER JAMES

He admonished me for calling his employee a bastard. 'Bastards,' I ranted. 'I was referring to the organisation...'

that if you preferred a cassette tape to a CD, you could find one. Slowly tape prices rose, so that a typical tape would cost £9.99. But even this method of avoiding the £14.99 for a CD is no longer on

offer in most music shops, because they do not supply tapes at all.

Then there are the hidden extras associated with electrical goods. When I bought my Hewlett Packard fax/printer I did not realise that a replacement ink cartridge (available only from Hewlett Packard) would cost around £25. Contacting the company to ask why they did not make a cartridge that could be refilled, I was told: "technical reasons". I assume this is the technical need to make a huge profit out of me, because I simply refuse to believe they could not create a refillable version.

Another problem is the moving goalposts. I have recently realised that I am paying miles more than I need to for my mobile phone. Hours of tedious research revealed that if I move to Orange there would be much lower charges, and none for an itemised bill. Similarly, a couple of years ago I realised that I was paying far more than I needed to

for my mortgage. Having contacted a few competitors to my building society and obtained better offers, I fed this information to mine. They immediately offered me a much cheaper deal.

Even if you do obtain the best deal, most of the services you purchase send bills that are almost completely incomprehensible. I suspect that teams of graphic artists carefully test them on focus groups to ensure inscrutability so that consumers do not really understand where their money is going.

The same is true with professional's billings, like those from lawyers and accountants. Only if you are very persistent will they give any sort of detail. If you are still not happy, there is no point in complaining to their self-policing regulatory bodies, who will not automatically get involved in disputes over fees.

I am a reasonably assertive, well educated person who is self-

employed and has the time to engage in the required argy-bargy if I am unhappy. But not everyone is lucky enough to be in this position. What about the mentally ill, the elderly and the exhausted?

Not that my proactivity helps me much, because I end up with the uncomfortable feeling that there is always something else that I should be worrying about: Should I move my telephone line to Mercury? Change to a different pension scheme? Get some health insurance?

All this is extremely bad for our daily well-being. It provokes Victor Meldrew raging and helpless depression. Mrs Thatcher's toxic legacy of enfeebled regulatory bodies and self-policing professional protection rackets must be ended. The Government should take over these roles, forcing the various industries involved to pay, making the bodies truly independent and supplying razor-sharp fangs.

The sweet smell of healthy gums

Make an effort to look after your mouth or be ready to say goodbye to your teeth. By Annabel Ferriman

Jean Wright first realised that something was wrong with her gums when she noticed the constant taste of blood in her mouth. She decided it was time to visit her dentist, particularly as she had not been for three years. He gave her the bad news: she had serious gum disease and required expensive treatment.

"Pockets had developed between my gums and my teeth which were encouraging the growth of bacteria. The dentist had to lift the gum off my teeth and scrape out the gunge."

"The stuff that came out was repulsive. He had to do a quarter of the mouth at a time, so I had to go back four times, and it cost £250. It did not hurt as he froze the gums, but I'd rather not have it again," she said.

Jean's dentist also frightened her by pointing out that people with gum disease seem to be at increased risk of heart disease. Several large studies have suggested a link, particularly in men between 40 and 50, though no one yet understands the reason for it. Experts think it could be due to both groups having an over-reactive natural body defence mechanism. Jean, a 49-year-old teacher from north London, was particularly annoyed to discover that she had gum disease because she had been a fairly conscientious teeth cleaner: always brushing twice a day. Like most of the British, however, she did not change her toothbrush every three months as dentists recommend (the average is 11 months) and never used dental floss.

Dentists say this casual attitude to dental hygiene has got to stop, otherwise we are going to continue losing our teeth prematurely, not so much from dental caries, which is less common now because of fluoride toothpaste, but from periodontitis - loss of the bone round the tooth - which develops from gingivitis, inflammation of the gum.

"Brushing and flossing are important because they disperse the bacteria. Troublesome bacteria are like football hooligans. They flourish in a crowd. If you keep dispersing them, they cannot do any harm," said Bernard Kieser, a London-based consultant periodontist.

"If you do not clean your teeth thoroughly, plaque, or what we now call microbial biofilm, forms on the teeth, which allows the troublesome bacteria to thrive. Antibiotics are not the answer because they cannot resolve a problem, which is essentially an imbalance of the microflora normally present in the mouth."

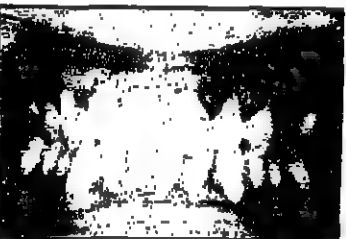
"Periodontitis is an ecological upset. You simply have to correct the balance," Mr Kieser added. "The use of antibiotics would be irrational and may even lead to the development of resistant strains."

Although the main reason for gingivitis is poor dental hygiene - apart from not replacing their toothbrushes frequently enough, the British brush their teeth on average for only 37 seconds a session, when

dentists recommend about two minutes - there are one or two other causes of the disorder, which affect certain groups and sometimes crop up. "In women, it is sometimes linked to hormones," said Aubrey Shelham, Professor of Dental Public Health at University College London.

"If a woman is pregnant or taking the Pill, her gums often bleed more. It is called pregnancy gingivitis or, in the case of women on the Pill, pseudo-pregnancy gingivitis, and is linked to the amount of oestrogen circulating in the blood."

"Pregnant women improve around the seventh month, when the body switches from producing a great deal of oestrogen to producing progesterone. Women taking the pill seem to get better after a year or so, as the body learns to accommodate the increase in hormones," he added.



Troublesome bacteria are like football hooligans. They flourish in a crowd

Women with pregnancy gingivitis often experience tender gums, a condition that can also be caused by an acute condition known as acute ulcerative gingivitis. This was known as "trench mouth" during the First World War, when it was common among soldiers.

"It occurs in times of stress, particularly among young people aged between 18 and 28 and in people with HIV. The gums are exquisitely painful and the victim has strong halitosis. When the condition was common, nurses could write a prescription as the person walked through the door of the clinic because the smell of the breath was so strong."

"The condition is also seasonal, occurring more in winter than in summer, when more people have flu and other illnesses. It is one of the few times when antibiotics are necessary," he added.

Halitosis is one of the unpleasant side-effects of gum disease. An estimated 15 per cent of the population over 35 have gum disease badly enough to cause halitosis and to need treatment.

It arises when the bacteria in gum pockets start to degrade the proteins in the gum. The by-products of the

process are first hydrogen sulphides, which smell like had eggs, and then chemicals called amines, which are also foul smelling. The names of these amines - cadaverine and putrescine - conjure up the ghastly smells they produce. As the gums become progressively more inflamed, so they produce a nutritious liquid which the bacteria love.

The bugs multiply, further breaking down the gums and enlarging the pocket, so they have more room to grow. The process continues in a vicious downward spiral, until the bone is affected and starts to be resorbed by the body and the teeth lose their attachment. This condition is known as periodontitis.

"Periodontitis is responsible for about a quarter of all the extractions done in the UK," said Dr Daphne Agerholm, a lecturer in periodontology at King's College Hospital, south London. "Because the damage is cumulative, most people do not start to lose teeth due to gum disease until they are in their 40s."

"I see patients every single day that have lost about two-thirds of the bone round their teeth and who say, 'Why didn't someone tell me I was at risk?'" The whole root of each tooth should be embedded in bone, but as the bone is resorbed, so the root becomes loose. Dr Agerholm pointed out that although gingivitis often leads to periodontitis, the link is not linear. "Some people can get gingivitis and it is contained throughout the whole life. Others can lose bone quite quickly. The difference in susceptibility is probably genetic. We think about 10 per cent of the population is highly susceptible and therefore more likely to lose their teeth due to periodontitis."

Her tips for avoiding periodontitis are: brush every surface of your teeth thoroughly and regularly, floss between the teeth, refrain from smoking and, if the gums are so sore that you find it hard to brush for long, use the mouthwash cordily, which contains chlorhexidine.

"Electric toothbrushes are brilliant these days and you could also use a toothpaste containing triclosan, which is useful in preventing problems," she added. Unfortunately the first signs of periodontitis are hard to detect yourself. Although you will know if you have gingivitis, because your gums bleed, you need X-rays or someone with a periodontal probe to see if you are losing bone, which necessitates a trip to the dentist.

Jean Wright was lucky. Her gingivitis was caught in time. "There has been no further deterioration and my gums have stopped receding. I now visit the dentist every three months for a scale and polish and I floss every day," she said.

For women in particular, a good set of teeth is important. As Hugh Wheeler wrote in *A Little Night Music*, "to lose a lover or even a husband or two during the course of one's life can be vexing. But to lose one's teeth is a catastrophe."



From left: Paul, James and their father Jim Brown. Both boys suffer from osteoporosis

Nick McGowan-Lowe

A young head on very old shoulders

Osteoporosis - brittle bones - can devastate a child, and the diagnosis is easily missed. By Cherrill Hicks

EVER SINCE he was a toddler, James Brown has found it hard to run and jump like other children. The GP told his parents, Jim and Eileen, that their elder son was simply clumsy, and that there was nothing to worry about.

It was not until James was 10 and had been taken to the local hospital, immobilised by back pain, that doctors discovered the real problem. "The orthopaedic surgeon took one look at his X-rays and said he had the skeleton of an old age pensioner," recalls his father.

James, now 12, was found to be suffering from osteoporosis, which makes bones so porous that they break easily. His bone density is so low that his vertebrae have fractured in a dozen different places, and his mobility has rapidly deteriorated. "At times he finds it hard to get out of bed," says his father. "He needs help with dressing, washing and taking to the bathroom. He manages to get to school most days, usually by taxi, and he has a special supportive desk and chair. His walking and balance are affected and he's easily knocked over. Of course, he can't do the normal childhood things, such as running and football. But he's very mature for a 12-year-old, and that's helped a lot."

Osteoporosis is normally associated with getting older, and particularly with post-menopausal women (hence the phrase "dowager's hump" to describe its effect on the spine). But children can suffer from

bone loss too - often with devastating results.

Juvenile osteoporosis is often the result of other health problems, such as an inability to absorb calcium (vital for healthy bone growth) and vitamin D (needed for the absorption of calcium). The disorder tends to affect children immobilised by arthritis or cerebral palsy, and is

Newcastle-upon-Tyne. "Yet they seem to suffer an imbalance between the cells which build bone and those which destroy them, so that more bone is lost than is replaced."

The result is increasing pain - especially in the back - and immobility, and numerous fractures in the long bones and vertebrae. There may also be difficulty in walking -

'Because of my genes... they could be in wheelchairs while I'm still walking about'

also a side-effect of oral corticosteroid drugs, used for life-threatening disorders such as leukaemia.

But in a small number of children with osteoporosis, such as James, doctors have been unable to find any cause. There are an estimated 50-100 of these children in Britain and they are said to suffer from idiopathic (of unknown origin) juvenile osteoporosis (JJO). "These are perfectly healthy, normal children in all other respects," says Dr Roger Francis, a consultant physician specialising in the disorder at the Freeman Hospital,

possibly due to fractures in the feet - and loss of height as the vertebrae squash together.

Research by Roger Francis strongly indicates that genetic factors may be involved. He and his team have carried out bone density scans on the siblings and parents of 10 children with JJO. The results are startling. On average, the bone density of brothers and sisters was significantly lower than expected, and the bone density of parents was also low for their age.

The Browns were one of the families who took part in the re-

search, and James's brother Paul, as well as his father, were found to have low bone density, though both are thought to have a milder form of the disease than James. Paul has since suffered a spinal fracture and complaints of stiffness after a day at school. Mr Brown has been prescribed calcium supplements.

At the moment, little can be done for children with JJO, although in severe cases a group of drugs called bisphosphonates, used to slow bone loss in adults, are prescribed. "We don't like to use these drugs unless we're really pushed into it, because we don't know if they're safe for children," says Dr Francis. A combination of calcium and vitamin D supplements may also be prescribed, to optimise the amount of calcium in the bone.

The good news is that more than half of these children make a spontaneous recovery after reaching puberty, when their bone density starts to improve. "We don't know why this is, but it may be because of hormonal changes," says Dr Francis. The rest, however, will carry on losing bone, and some will end up severely disabled - a possibility that Jim Brown prefers not to think about.

"Seeing James hurt his back is distressing enough," he says. "But to find out that because of something in my genes, they could both be in wheelchairs later, while I'm still walking about normally - I don't know what I'd do."

We must not be blind to Nature's cruelty

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HEALTH CHECK



JEREMY LAURANCE

What appears natural in one context may also be unnatural, and frankly dangerous, in another - a point never acknowledged by the marketing people.

The best example I know of here is oxygen. What could be more natural than oxygen, the element that makes life possible on earth? Yet oxygen given to premature babies makes them blind.

In the Forties and Fifties there was an epidemic of blindness among premature

babies who had been raised for their first days or weeks in incubators. For years the cause was unsuspected, and hundreds of parents bore the tragic consequences. Who, after all, could have suspected that oxygen, given to these babies in higher concentrations because their lungs were immature, was the culprit? The very suggestion invited ridicule, which made the eventual discovery all the more remarkable.

A high concentration of oxygen is damaging to premature babies because the immature tissues of the retina respond to it by closing off their blood vessels which are not yet fully grown. When they are removed from the incubator into the air, with its lower oxygen level, the retina then has an inadequate blood supply and the tissues bud out new blood vessels and strands of fibrous tissue that block the vision and can lead later to retinal detachment.



Many premature babies had their vision damaged by the high oxygen concentrations used in incubators

The discovery of the cause of the condition, which is known as retrolental fibroplasia, is one of the great medical detective stories of the 20th century. It is now known that the damaging effects of oxygen can be prevented by careful measuring of the levels in the blood of the babies, and controls to keep it from rising too high. But there are further risks.

The complex inner lining of the eyeball, composed of cells that transduce light into images, is largely in place by the fourth month of pregnancy. The central retinal artery grows through the optic nerve at the back of the eye and branches out across the surface of the retina in a process that is not complete until near birth. As the technology of the Eighties and Nineties has

allowed smaller and smaller infants to survive, requiring more of their retinal blood vessels to develop outside the womb, the condition has made a comeback. We are now, according to a recent issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, in the midst of "a second epidemic" - demonstrating how advances in medicine often come with unforeseen drawbacks.

Nature may be nasty as well as nice, and brutal as well as kind - as the victims of retrolental fibroplasia and their families discovered. "Natural" does not always mean "safe".

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MEDIA

Advertising craves a stream of great new ideas, and some people are not fussy about where they come from. By Meg Carter



A scene from the Guinness advert 'Anticipation', the idea for which a film maker claimed was stolen from one of his productions

So whose idea was it anyway?

Creator of Tintin "was plagiarist", headlines in the French press blared last week. Across the pond, an obscure New York playwright filed a suit against Paramount claiming its current Jim Carey blockbuster, *The Truman Show*, is based on his idea. Closer to home, a British director claimed in the High Court that Guinness copied his work in one of its ads. Just another week in mediand, as new litigants lined up to declare: "Someone's ripped off my idea!"

Opportunists out for what they can get? Some are, undoubtedly. Even so, there's growing concern that an industry hungry for inspiration is growing increasingly ready to "borrow" - the less generous assert "steal" - its creative ideas.

While there is no copyright on an idea there is copyright on "the tangible expression of an idea" - the description, presentation or execution of the idea. However, the fine line that divides the two is becoming increasingly blurred.

The latest example of this involves Guinness, its advertising agency Arks, and a director, Mehdi Norowzian, who claimed a recent Guinness commercial plagiarised one of his films. The ad, "Anticipation", features a man dancing around a pint of Guinness. Norowzian claimed it plagiarised a film he made called *Joy*. He argued that both advertiser and agency were guilty of copyright infringement.

Last Friday, the High Court ruled against Norowzian. The judge in the case said that it was impossible to say "Anticipation" had copied a substantial part of *Joy*, and ordered Norowzian to pay Guinness' costs. Unsurprisingly, Norowzian was unhappy and said: "It leaves too many questions that need answering."

The Guinness dispute is by no means unusual. In June, Turner Prize-winning artist Gillian Wearing accused London ad agency BMP DDB Needham of ripping off her work. BMP's latest commercial for the Volkswagen Golf features an array of characters holding up boards carrying written messages totally contrary to the image of the person holding them.

Wearing's project, "Signs", features a random selection of people stopped in the street and invited to write their thoughts on paper and be photographed holding them - with the same contradictory results. Wearing wrote a letter of complaint to BMP. According to a spokesman for her agent, Interim Arts, there the matter rests. BMP chairman, James Best, told Campaign magazine: "I'm

sure there's nothing in it. Ideas come from everywhere." He's got a point. "All ideas lead from other ideas and the whole purpose is to influence," one senior agency executive explains. "To then object that your influence has had an effect on people seems absurd." Although he grudgingly concedes, there are examples of other people's ideas being used "where credit isn't given where it's due".

Advertising agencies labour under a number of misapprehensions about copyright, says Philip Circus, an advertising law consultant and chairman of the Advertising Legal Group. "There is a widespread belief that if you take someone else's idea and make minor alterations to it that lets you off the hook," he explains. Wrong. "A lot of

people in the industry don't know how to copy an idea without copying the tangible expression."

As tricky an area is the use of music. "There is a tendency here for creatives to be asked to go as close to the wire as they can to produce something as evocative as possible of an existing piece of music like the *Star Wars* theme," Mr Circus observes. "There will always be a danger that creatives told to go as close to the line as possible will end up falling over it."

Under the 1988 Copyright Act, anyone who creates a piece of material owns the copyright - unless they are a member of staff, in which case their employer holds the copyright. It is a piece of legislation increasingly being used by creative people working in other parts of the

media, notably television. Bernard Clark, director of Clark Productions, claims the number of producers' ideas being ripped off is growing rapidly. "In my experience, many ideas are being stolen and much of this is being done by the BBC," he says.

There are three forms of "idea theft" in television, he explains. "Firstly there are ideas members of the public suggest." Many are sent in by viewers, most are rarely acknowledged but a number end up, uncredited, on screen. The second is producers who pitch ideas to a commissioning editor, get knocked back (or no reply) and subsequently see "their" programme made by someone else. "Then there's staff and external applicants who go for new jobs, get asked to submit

programme ideas and see the best of these made - but not by them." Clark has been closely involved in the launch of the Alliance for the Protection of Copyright, a group of programme makers and broadcasters intent on tackling the issue of whose ideas belong to whom.

"There is a significant number of people who feel their ideas have been ripped off, but who are mistaken. There's a great deal of co-incidence in new ideas - it's a creative industry and creative people are all drawing on similar resources for inspiration," he says.

In the meantime, programme makers are increasingly asking TV companies to sign confidentiality letters when discussing new and proposed ideas. "If you tell someone your idea there is nothing you can

do to stop them going off and doing it themselves unless you can prove you gave them that idea in confidence," says Alan Williams, senior partner and head of media and technology at solicitors Denton Hall. The television company could then claim the idea was already being developed for it by someone else but, in this case, the onus would be on the broadcaster to prove it. So put down your idea in writing and develop it as fully as possible.

Even so, many broadcasters remain sceptical about the validity of producers' claims. One in-house broadcast lawyers observes: "Because there's no copyright on ideas it is possible to bring an action for breach of confidence. There's an increasing number of claims for this, many of which are largely spurious."

Of course, it's entirely possible for a number of people to get the same idea at the same time. This justification is often used by broadcasters who, having got wind of a rival's plans, develop a similar idea as a "spoiler" - the reason for the spate of "neighbours from hell" documentaries earlier this year.

A fine line also exists between plagiarism and pastiche or homage. Recently, one of McDonald's World Cup ads featured a meticulous recreation of Eurostar's commercial in which Eric Cantona spouted poetry - same idea, same setting but with a poetic Alan Shearer although in this case, McDonald's did get clearance from Eurostar in advance.

It is usually easy to see who owns a copyright, less so whether that copyright has actually been breached. Circus points out. "Any industry that indulges in a hefty amount of plagiarism risks ending up in the law courts," he adds. "This now looks increasingly likely. Which is a jolly good thing." From the lawyers' point of view, at least.



Two New Zealand playwrights have tried to claim the credit for *The Full Monty*

BATTLES FOR CREDIT AND CASH

LAST MONTH a Californian judge threw out a \$100m copyright infringement suit filed by two New Zealand playwrights against the producers of *The Full Monty*. The playwrights claimed the film closely resembled their 10-year-old play, *Ladies Night*. The case may yet be heard in the UK.

Four years ago, Helmut Newton complained after a magazine ad campaign for Liberty featured a series of ads bearing a startling resemblance to his series of photographs of models shot naked and dressed in identical positions. Not guilty, advertising agency Bartle Bogle Regarty claimed.

The late Hughie Green unsuccessfully fought a court

battle to stop New Zealand producers making a show he claimed was a version of *Opportunity Knocks*. Trouble was, little of his original idea was ever committed to paper - his claim was too difficult to prove.

In 1992 a lawsuit was filed against US television producer Aaron Spelling claiming that he stole an idea that HW Broido Jr, a merchandise marketer, had pitched to him. This idea, Broido claimed, became the basis for *Beverly Hills 90210*.

Ogilvy & Mather had to pay compensation to photographer Marc Rimboud after recreating a street scene similar to one of his 1962 photographic compositions in a Rothmans advert.



Aaron Spelling was accused of stealing the idea that became *Beverly Hills 90210*

Teletubbies rule at the BBC

ANALYSIS

JANE ROBINS

WHEN THE BBC talks of being a global player in world markets, it often favours rhetoric over hard plans. The first annual report of BBC Worldwide, the commercial wing of the corporation, though, gives a hint of how Sir John Birt sees domestic and international expansion in practice.

The tone is one of fast and furious change - indeed the pace seems certain to irritate those BBC competitors who argue that its commercial ambitions are, at root, incompatible with licence-fee funding. The planned expansion is obvious in the one figure in Worldwide's accounts that gets BBC executives excited. This year the company sent £75m to the core BBC, a 42 per cent rise, and that is targeted to rise to £220m by 2006.

Currently, most of Worldwide's £409m sales are in publishing. Magazine spin-offs from BBC programmes have been particularly successful. BBC Gardener's *World* leads the gardening market, and the *Top of the Pops* magazine has overtaken the teeny-boppers' former favourite *Smash Hits*.

It is fortunate for the Beeb, then, that the digital age, and the plethora of new channels about to enter our homes, open up opportunities for a host of new consumer and leisure programmes, each with potential for

a spin-off magazine. The prospect is, doubtless, causing much anxiety in publishers' meetings elsewhere in the industry.

If, for instance, the BBC decides to launch a *Motherhood* programme, along with a *Motherhood* magazine, the team at *Mother and Baby* had better watch out. The BBC does, after all, have the advantage of being able to provide free advert-

is in the form of a half-hour television programme.

Beyond magazines, Worldwide now wants to expand its general programme-related merchandising. *Teletubbies* has led the way, with dolls, videos, T-shirts and heaven knows what, producing sales worth £23m this year. The new chief executive, Rupert Gavin, who was formerly at British Telecom, seems enthused by a vision of more Teletubbies-style projects. He sees the BBC merchandising operation as a

He sees the BBC merchandising operation as a sort of mini-Disney

launched with a range of fancy dinosaur products.

But *Walking with Dinosaurs* could attract some criticism. Mr Gavin says Worldwide worked with the BBC editorial team from the beginning of the dinosaur programmes and wishes, generally, for commercial possibilities to be vigorously explored. This approach is plainly a hair's breadth away from undermining the editorial purity of public-service broadcasting. Commercial prospects are simply not supposed

to distort the content of licence-fee-funded programmes.

So, would a Worldwide representative on the early stages of *Walking with Dinosaurs* dare suggest, with profits in mind, that the dinosaurs in question could be cuter? If so, the programme maker would need the strength of character not to be unduly tempted by Worldwide's cash.

The third plank to BBC Worldwide's ambitions is longer-term - in the form of new channels. In 1997/98 the organisation launched six new commercial channels, with the benefit of astute joint ventures with Flextech in the UK and Discovery in America. The new projects are currently making losses of £20m, and losses are expected again next year. But Worldwide activity will, none the less, be frenetic, building on this year's launches, and adding one or two more channels to the portfolio.

In all, BBC Worldwide seems in good shape, but it is, in commercial terms, a peculiar animal. It is unlikely ever to announce enormous profits, as its priority will always be to send dollops of cash back to its only shareholder - the BBC. It is another of the company's advantages that most of the millions recycled to the Beeb enter the books as a cost, rather than a profit - and are therefore not taxed. Clever Sir John.

THE WORD ON THE STREET



THE ADDITION of "editor in chief" to Paul Dacre's existing title of editor of the *Daily Mail* is not likely to shake the populace. For Associated Newspapers and Mr Dacre (right) it is important news; for the wider world less so. Which makes you wonder why *News at Ten* felt the need to break this less-than-earth-shattering item to its audience of millions last Thursday. Even media-obsessed national newspapers gave his promotion only a three-line slug. Anything to do with the fact that the editor in chief of ITN, which makes *News at Ten*, is one Nigel Dacre - brother of Paul?

AT A Royal Television Society dinner last week Steve Morrison, chief executive of Granada Media Group, waxed lyrical about the programming strengths of his television company. Its history and heritage were beyond compare, he said. As illustration of this he said he welcomed and looked forward to the next instalment of Michael Apted's breathtaking documentary which has followed children from their seventh birthday: *42-Up*. What Morrison failed to mention was that while Granada had made the new instalment, for

the first time in 35 years it was not to be aired by Granada or ITV. Instead the BBC had stepped into the breach because ITV refused to air *42-Up*'s sister programmes about 14-year-old children in America.

TROUBLE IS brewing at *The Guardian*, where the new broom of the chief executive, Bob Phillips, is sweeping in distinctly BBC-style cost-cutting methods. The newspaper's news sub-editors

are in revolt at a plan to increase their shift rota from eight to nine days a fortnight. It is, of course, that management want it imposed as a condition of the subs getting a pay rise. The Guardian Media Group's £50m profits this year - thanks to a booming classified market at the *Manchester Evening News* and *Auto Trader* - obviously make the cuts vital.

THOSE WHO attended the BBC's annual report shindig last week - at which the Director General and Chairman of the corporation explained themselves to an invited audience of so-called broadcasting stakeholders - were reminded of a parliamentary debate in Russia, circa 1948. The grilling given by assembled worthies to the BBC brass was so limp that "obsequious" is not only enough a word to describe it. Most prefixed their questions with "may I applaud..." The whole thing was reminiscent of the wonderful spoof of *Points of View* when viewers wrote in to explain that they would gladly sell their children to pay a higher licence fee. Unfortunately the BBC brass now seems to think that is a serious public point of view.

Time to get off the doorstep

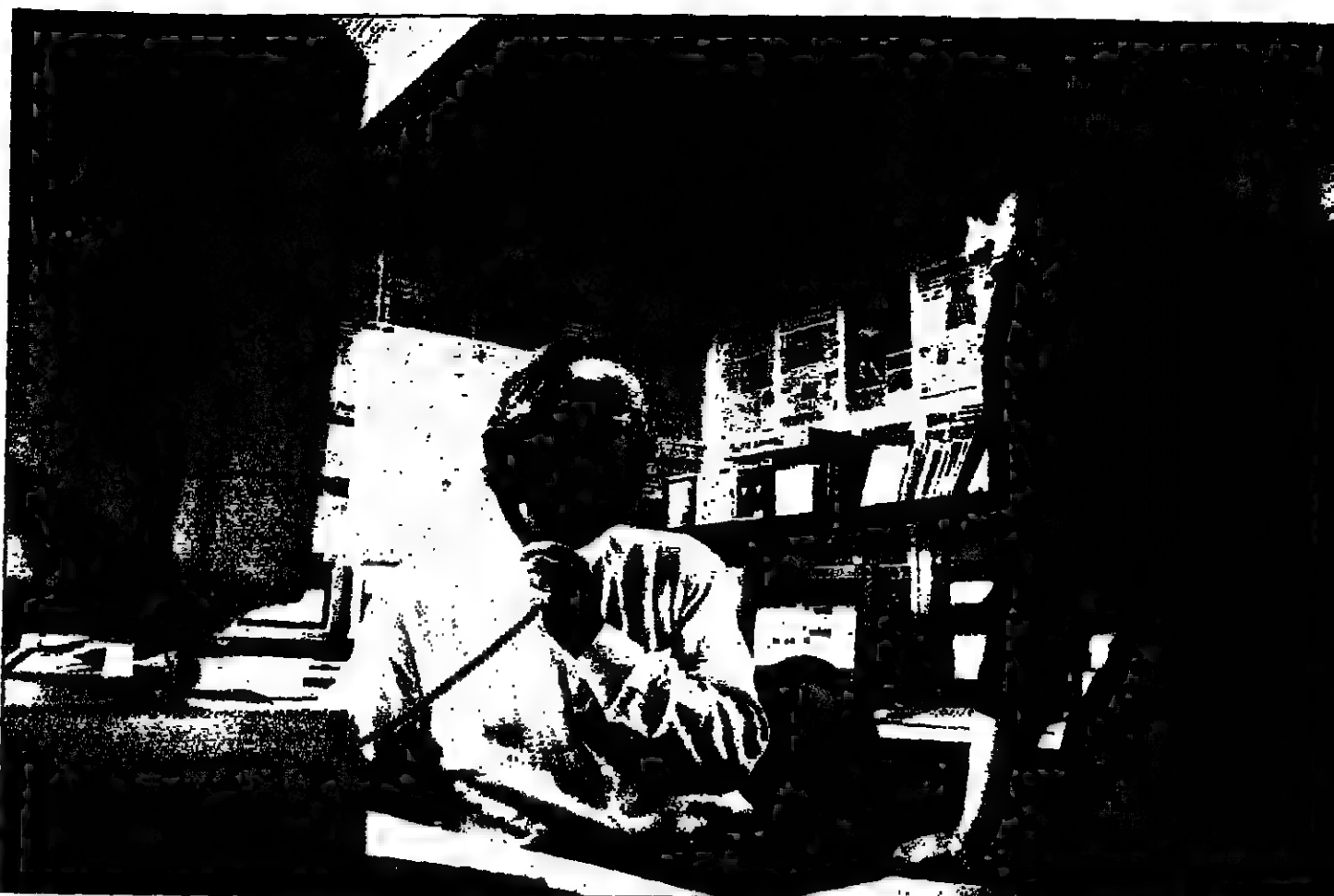
The infamous news agency, News Team, is trying to change its image. By Naomi Marks

Things are afoot at News Team, the Birmingham news agency that won national notoriety following its unsavoury portrayal in a BBC documentary. Into the background disappears Nigel Iskander, the former *News of the World* photographer who spent a dozen years building the agency into a million-pound-a-year business. And into the managing director's chair moves Sara Goldberg, Mr Iskander's wife of three years and a woman whose newspaper credentials, she willingly confesses, go little further than that of a consumer.

"You've heard of a boardroom coup? Well, this is a bedroom coup," she explains.

The dark, diminutive and immaculately manicured Ms Goldberg insists it is she and not Mr Iskander who calls the tune to which the agency dances these days. She is keen to push the image of News Team journalists as "responsible operators" and claims for the agency something of a social mission. While, for many people, it is the image of the foot-in-the-door tabloid hack that represents all that they find distasteful about the journalist's trade, it is the agency reporter or photographer who is more likely to overstep the mark. In one media directory, there are listed close on 100 news agencies covering the UK. And for many years, News Team gloried in the reputation of being the most extreme of them all.

That reputation was secured by News Team's portrayal in "The Tabloid Truth", an *Inside Story* programme that made even some hardened agency journalists blanch. This fly-on-the-wall documentary captured a News Team photographer deliberating over whether to urinate in his McDonald's cup or



New News Team managing director, Sara Goldberg: "You've heard of a boardroom coup. This is a bedroom coup" Tom Pilston

briefly leave his stake-out of an adulterous couple. It showed a secretary being persuaded to pose as a prostitute to accompany a *News of the World* story and it filmed a reporter camped outside the home of a bereaved couple who were refusing to part with a picture of a dead child.

In short, it opened the eyes of the public to the world of the agency journalist. It is a hard world, and one in which many tabloid greats, including Kelvin MacKenzie, the former editor of *The Sun*, first honed their skills. Usually young, nearly always keen to be noticed by the national and sometimes paid by results, it is agency reporters and photographers who, as one veteran of the scene put it, "get on the doorstep earliest and stay longest".

The programme prompted a damage-limitation exercise by the

news agencies' trade body, NAPA, which News Team had then quit membership of anyway. News International, publisher of *The Sun* and *News of the World*, even stopped taking News Team copy for a short time.

So, just four years on, it is unexpected to hear the new head of News Team speaking of the need to "wake up to the potential damage caused to our society" by the press. Ms Goldberg, whose background includes a spell in the Civil Service and the last few years as a legal adviser, says: "You can't neglect the fact that the press is an industry that does affect our society and our society does need a boost. Society has lost its direction and anything we can do to bring it back on course, we will."

Whatever prompted Ms Goldberg's "coup", and Mr Iskander

seems very happy as deposed leader, there is no doubt that the fortunes of News Team have changed drastically of late. Two years ago it employed some 40 reporters and photographers; today it is down to half that number. The last of a handful of satellite offices established in the agency's heyday closes at the end of this month.

To cap it all, competition in Britain's second city, where News Team's energies are now concentrated, is hotting up. Still, Ms Goldberg is upbeat about News Team's future. She is also unfazed by her lack of hands-on news gathering experience. She may never have spent grim hours thumb-twiddling in the back of a van or been bawled at by an irate news editor, but she is confident she can carry the agency forward in, as she says, a responsible manner. Certainly, Ms Goldberg

seems to have quickly acquired the time-honoured management techniques of the newsroom. In her first visit to the soon-to-close Manchester office, she left a richly worded memo in which, among other things, she described staff as "disturbed and deranged idiots".

It is possible that in the post-Diana climate, in which the gun-ho tactics of some reporters and photographers are no longer tolerated, Mr Iskander has been born again and his wife is carrying forward the torch for a new, softer form of agency journalism.

Or maybe Mr Iskander has merely adopted the philosophy of Moshe Dayan. As the former Israeli leader is reputed to have said, when asked what he would have done had he not emerged victorious from the six-day war: "I would have started another one in the wife's name."

IF I RULED THE AIRWAVES

CHARLIE PARSONS, JOINT MANAGING DIRECTOR OF PLANET 24, CELEBRATES THE ECCENTRIC AND BOLD

BRITISH TELEVISION has a certain Britishness about it that gives it a unique quality. I've just spent a year in America, where I used to pine for home a lot and watch, on PBS on Friday nights, *To The Manor Born*, *Are You Being Served?*, and *Henry*.

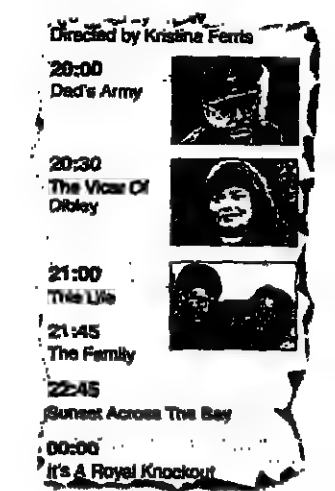
And I realised that the best British programmes have an eccentricity and boldness about them. *Dad's Army* is a fantastic example of this. What makes it are its well-devised plots and the brilliant characters - all larger than life, but you can recognise them. The irony is that if it were being pitched nowadays, it would never get made: it's impossible to imagine any commissioning editor, with their obsession with youth, considering a sitcom about a bunch of old men in army uniform. Yet it's one of the most durable comedies there's ever been, and the model for so many other things.

Everyone knows why my next programme, *The Vicar of Dibley*, got sold - a star vehicle for Dawn French. But it's a brilliant star vehicle, and very well-written. My favourite is the Christmas episode where she receives three invitations to Christmas hunch and ends up struggling through three meals so as not to offend anyone.

In a way, my third choice, *This Life*, was a programme waiting to happen. Nobody had ever done anything specifically aimed at twenty-somethings. What I liked about it was that it had an original style, in terms of the way it was shot. And, although the first time you watch it you think "Does this work?", you very quickly get used to it. This tells you a lot about the audience. It's not dissimilar to when we began the *Big Breakfast* news bulletins, and people were initially very critical; literally within a week, though, people had accepted the style. A lot of people making and buying

programmes don't give the audience the credit it deserves. Though influenced by *NYPD Blue* and all those Steven Bochco dramas, it had its own uniquely British style, and a good set of characters, all of which you followed.

We then go onto *The Family* - the original docu-soap, which I think was in 12 parts. Very simply, they put a camera in the house of this ordinary working-class family - the Wilkins - from Reading and followed their trials and



tribulations. (Research had said that Reading was the most normal town in Britain.)

It set a style in that it was an insider's rather than an outsider's view. It was compulsive viewing: you really felt you got to know the family, and it would be fascinating to know what happened to them.

The final programme, *It's A Royal Knockout*, is ideal for the post-pub audience. I think it would be amazing for people to relive the horror of it, frankly. *It's A Royal Knockout* itself was bizarre enough, with people dressing up and competing town against town. But *It's A Royal Knockout*? Everybody puts the change in the Royal Family's fortunes down to the moment when they committed to this. But what great TV it made.

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Getting inside our heads

Focus groups can sway Labour and kill toilet cleaners. But are they really any use? By Helen Jones

Take a couple of sofas, a one-way mirror, half a dozen housewives, copious quantities of crisps and cheap white wine and you have got a focus group that can formulate Labour Party policy or the name of a new brand of washing powder.

Since New Labour swept to power, focus groups have become an essential political tool and are used to gain an insight into the electorate's views on everything from the NHS to Tony Blair's smile. Even the monarchy is using them to help it find the common touch. And the Conservative Party, despite its public derision of focus groups, is not immune - William Hague's year-long "listening campaign", which was launched last week, is nothing more than an elaborate focus group.

"Just because he is going out meeting the people in village halls and shopping centres doesn't mean it's not a focus group," says one senior planner at an advertising agency.

Although politicians have only recently discovered the power of the focus group, advertising agencies have used them for years to assess what consumers think about brands, ad campaigns and new product launches, because there is a lot of investment at stake. In the case of new product launches, eight out of ten fail and companies want to make sure they are among the other 20 per cent.

But all the duff ads that appear on our TV screens and the products that disappear from supermarket shelves have been through focus groups, so do they really work?

One of the problems lies with the consumers who take part. Some may be too shy or too polite to tell the moderator holding the session that the world really does not need another brand of toilet cleaner. Others may say anything for a few glasses of wine and £20, and others may simply lie for the hell of it.

There are also the professional "groupies" who get a kick out of spending their evenings talking about products and advertising and proferring their advice. "They are the ones who say: 'I think your strategy is all wrong. What you need is bet-



One-way mirrors are often used to watch focus groups in action

Mykel Nicolau

ter category management and a through-the-line approach." They have got all the jargon and are probably very sad individuals, who failed to get a job in marketing or advertising," says one planning director.

Anna Hutson, the planning director of the advertising agency WCRS, says: "You do get some slightly weird people who are prepared to give up their evenings. The problem is that they often try to tell you what to do. That's our job. We just want to find out what they think about the product."

All-male focus groups can also be a problem, because men tend to be less honest than women. "There is more peer pressure in men's groups because there is a fear of making an idiot of yourself - they won't admit that they find things like financial

services confusing, whereas women will be more straightforward," she says.

As well as the bumptious know-alls and the liars, there are the people who regularly turn up for the money - a practice the industry is keen to stamp out.

However, the ad industry insists that if the consumers selected are genuine, focus groups can be helpful. "They are immensely useful to help you get into the heads of the target audience. If you are looking for how they really feel about a brand then it is invaluable," says Janet Grimes, a senior planner at Ogilvy & Mather.

But the moderators running the sessions have to ask the right questions in the first place. Coca-Cola famously used focus groups when it decided to change its formula. Con-

sumers said they liked the new flavour because it was younger and fresher, but nobody asked them if it should replace the old taste. As a result, Coca-Cola had to relaunch the original as Classic Coke within six months.

"If used well, focus groups can be enormously useful; if not, they are not only useless but seriously misleading. I have heard clients say: 'We have got a 60 per cent hit rate with this product' because four out of the eight people they interviewed said they liked it. In the wrong hands, a focus group can be a dangerous weapon," said Mark Tomblin, a partner in the consultancy Cold Eye.

A lot is down to the skills of the moderator who runs the session. Leading questions such as: "Is brand X better than brand Y?" are out. Instead they use projection or

"brand visualisation" techniques, such as: "If this car were an animal, which would it be?" - pretty obvious if the answer is a tiger or a snail, but more difficult for the moderator if a punter with twisted logic or a warped sense of humour thinks it is an aardvark.

Some go one step further than the traditional focus group. The brand consultants Coley Porter Bell regularly film consumers while they are out shopping. The company's managing director, Amanda Connolly, says: "I think focus groups have a role to play, but one of the problems is that consumers can get very rational in a way which bears no relationship to their usual behaviour. We film them in context while they are shopping. Then we play back the film and ask them why they picked the products that they did."

A new image for the Church

PITCH

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IS LOOKING FOR A SPIN DOCTOR, A PR MAN AND AN ADVERTISING AGENT OFFER IT SOME ADVICE

HUGH BURKITT, chairman, Court Burdett and Goss. Near where I used to live as a boy, there was a Non-conformist church that used to run bold posters, with proclamations like "God washes whitest of all". But a few well-designed posters alone are not going to change non-churchgoers' attitudes. However, the Church of England has huge opportunities to market itself. Awareness is high, distribution is good - most people can get to a church on foot - and the entry price is low. The cynic in me sometimes feels that the Church of England lost popularity when it stopped preaching hell-fire or eternal bliss. Does it really itself believe in heaven or hell any more? If it does, an advertising campaign should:

- In particular, target young mothers. I think they have a natural concern for their spiritual welfare.
- Look at insurance-selling as a parallel, perhaps. The Church might advertise itself with lines such as "You want a direct line to God?" But there may be more persuasive propositions, as an antidote to so much modern commercial pressure. The Church welcomes you regardless of wealth, and allows you to step out of the rat-race. It promises that God will love you. And all of this starts to sound rather better in the here and now than the negligible chance of winning the National Lottery.
- Be national - 48-sheet posters - spending £5m a year. It only works if the same message is taken into every parish by leaflets and by people knocking on doors. Christian Aid Week is a good model.

SIR TIM BELL, group chairman, Bell Pottinger communications. The Church's biggest problem is that we live in a convenience society, where people consider travelling 20 minutes by car an ordeal. So the idea of sitting in a cold church for an hour singing some fairly dull songs puts people off. The Church has to get back in touch with people and have relevance to their lives. It should:

- Learn from the supermarkets about being customer-friendly - and from the Government. Maybe they could relaunch as the "New Church of England".
- Take the Church to football matches - have every match begin with a prayer. They could get a website - even if they have one, I bet it's obscure. And they should go on TV: they should have a long time ago, got control of Songs of Praise.
- Start a mission to create more Christians. For example, what would be wrong with the Archbishop of Canterbury writing a newspaper column? The issue might be: "Are we behaving properly?" or "Are we communicating the wrong things?", rather than "Let's have a new image".
- Realise that Sunday School is a marvellous opportunity to involve kids. The Bible stories are good stories.
- Make their own community more tightly knit. They don't speak out about anything - divorce, the family, the damage done by unemployment. What all of them should do is re-read the Bible, kneel down in their churches and pray to God for help; maybe they will get it.

INTERVIEWS BY SCOTT HUGHES

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APPOINTMENTS DIARY

Monday IT, Science, Engineering	Wednesday Finance, Legal, Secretarial	Sunday Public, General
Tuesday Media, Marketing, Sales	Thursday Education, Graduate	

NEW FILMS

THE THIEF (15)

Director: Pavel Chukhrai
Starting: Misha Philipchuk, Vladimir Mashkov
The Thief is a familiar story, told with competence, but it's only the passionate acting which makes the film special. In his investigation into the psyche of a six-year-old Russian boy in the aftermath of the Second World War, writer-director Pavel Chukhrai tries for that brand of unforced poetry pioneered by Louis Malle and by Tarkovsky. Unfortunately, he doesn't quite pull it off.
Chukhrai does too much of the work for his audience: his film is most striking when it rests on intuition, such as when it is building the relationship between the child, Sanya (Misha Philipchuk), and his mother's lover, Tolyan (Vladimir Mashkov), who wears a soldier's uniform but carries a kit-bag bulging with looted crockery and cutlery. He's the film's thief, and the suggestion is that he has filched more than just other people's goblets: he's stolen the heart of Sanya (Ekaterina Rednikova) and the innocence of her little boy, too.
Chukhrai lets the story unfold until the final 15 minutes, when it seems to go disastrously wrong. He tries to tie up the loose ends, but some of us like to have them flapping around in the memory.
CW: Renoir

GODZILLA (PG)

Director: Roland Emmerich
Starting: Matthew Broderick, Jean Reno
New York is in turmoil. People are running through the streets screaming, and though the police are desperately trying to restore calm, even they are wondering if the Big Apple will ever recover.
Yes, Tina Brown has left the building. Oh, and there's also a giant lizard rampaging through the streets, munching on skyscrapers. But never mind all that: what next for Tina?
The team of Roland Emmerich (director and co-writer) and Dean Devlin (producer and co-writer) are generally very adept at constructing enjoyable adventures with a B-movie taste for fun (Stargate and Independence Day), but their touch evades them on Godzilla. The script loses in characters and conflicts which aren't followed through, and

it doesn't take long for it all to descend from a nuclear-age parable to a numb, dumb succession of chases.

It's hard to imagine who might get a kick out of Godzilla, except for New Yorkers who like to imagine their city starting again from scratch.
CW: ABC Baker Street, ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Empire Leicester Square, Hammersmith Virgin, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Rio Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Fulham Road.

THE LITTLE MERMAID (U) Animated Feature
Director: John Musker and Ron Clements
Re-released for the summer holidays by Disney, this film provides an odd, unexpected treat. Bright and breezy in style, even its songs are good.
CW: Clapham Picture House, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

BARNEY'S GREAT ADVENTURE (U)
Director: Steve Gomer
Starting: Barney the Dinosaur
Feature-length exploits for the big, jolly dinosaur whose blend of nursery rhymes, day-glo colours and moral lessons make him ideal for the pre-school viewer - but an endurance test for anyone else.
CW: Hammersmith Virgin, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero

LIFE IS ALL YOU GET (18)
Director: Wolfgang Becker
Starting: Jürgen Vogel, Ricky Tomlinson
Beginning with a riot in Berlin and a man discovering he may be HIV positive, this film really takes you by surprise. In this gritty and absurd film, the drama is never diminished by the humour, and the comedy has real poignancy.
CW: ABC Swiss Centre, Clapham Picture House, Curzon Mnema

Ryan Gilbey

GENERAL RELEASE

CITY OF ANGELS (12)

Nicolas Cage plays an angel deciding whether or not to exchange his celestial immortality for domestic bliss with the mortal Meg Ryan in the American take on Wim Wenders's *Wings of Desire*. West End: ABC Baker St, ABC Tottenham Court Rd, Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Hammersmith Virgin, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End

DREAM WITH THE FISHES (18)

Take a suicidal loser and a junkie with a month to live and give them some time together before an inevitable tearful farewell. Perhaps it's the realisation that *Dream with the Fishes* could so easily have been a nightmare that makes its success seem deserved. West End: Metro

GIRLS' NIGHT (15)

Teaser-jerk which stars Brenda Blethyn as a cancer-sufferer who jets off to Las Vegas for a last holiday with her sister-in-law, played by Julie Walters. Initially bubbly, the film becomes grossly manipulative. CW: UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End

THE GIRL WITH BRAINS IN HER FEET (15)

Jaunty take on the rites-of-passage genre. The lively script is complemented by the sparkling performance of Joanna Ward as the film's heroine. West End: Rio Cinema

GREASE (20TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION) (PG)

What fun there can be had from a second viewing of this 20 year old nostalgia film is mostly due to John Travolta's manic performance as the greased up hero. CW: Clapham Picture House, Empire Leicester Square, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Marble Arch, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero

GURU IN SEVEN (18)

A thoroughly dismal, witless British comedy which comes on like an Asian version of the Sixties classic, *Alfie*. CW: ABC Piccadilly, Virgin Trocadero

KISS OR KILL (18)

Australian road movie come serial killer drama about a couple of scam merchants. Pretensions in some places, it still manages to be agreeably nasty in others. CW: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Odeon Camden Town

KURT & COURTNEY (15)

Compulsive documentary, directed by Nick Broomfield, investigating the death of the Nirvana frontman, Kurt Cobain, and the conspiracy theories which emerged in the wake of the event. CW: Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Green, Warner Village West End

THE LAST TIME I COMMITTED SUICIDE (15)

Tip into the life of the Beat icon Neal Cassady, played by Thomas Jane. There's lots of fast cutting and theatrical lighting, but the film just amounts to the same old Beat clichés. West End: ABC Piccadilly

LOVE AND DEATH ON LONG ISLAND (15)

Comedy, starring John Hurt and Jason Priestley, concerned with the relationship between art and life. Writer-director Richard Kwietniowski takes great care in tracing the areas where they overlap. CW: Barbican Screen, Chelsea Cinema, Clapham Picture House, Gate Notting Hill, Metro, Renoir, Richmond Filmhouse, Rio Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, Screen on the Hill, Virgin Haymarket

MAD CITY (15)

Dustin Hoffman plays a reporter caught in a hostage situation in a museum, where a disgruntled ex-employee, played by John Travolta, has produced a gun in an attempt to get his job back. The film becomes a series of reflex attacks on the moral bankruptcy of television and, by extension, the late 20th century. CW: ABC Baker Street, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Hammersmith Virgin, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

MIMIC (15)

Mira Sorvino is a doctor who combats a virus that's sweeping New York by developing a rival cockroach species in this ingenious science-fiction horror fable. CW: Elephant & Castle Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Marble Arch, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

MOJO (15)

Set in a mythologised 1950s Soho inhabited by petty gangsters, *Mojo* never entirely escapes its theatrical roots. But it concentrates on sexual tension in a way which American crime movies generally shy away from. CW: Plaza, Warner Village West End

THE OBJECT OF MY AFFECTION (15)

See *The Independent Recommends*, above. CW: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, Phoenix Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea

PALMETTO (15)

Ironic film noir directed by Volker Schlöndorff. Harry Barber (Woody Harrelson) is the ex-con who gets mixed up with a pair of duplicitous women. CW: Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

PONETTE (15)

French tale of a four-year-old girl (Violette Thivon) whose mother dies in a car accident. The young Thivon is superb, yet it's hard to deny discomfort at watching one so young parade emotion in this raw and primal. CW: Curzon Mayfair, Metro

SAVIOR (18)

Politically inept war film set in Bosnia. Dennis Quaid stars as a man who loses his family in a Paris bomb blast and avenges their deaths by gunning down a row of Muslims at prayer before becoming a hired killer. West End: Virgin Haymarket

SLING BLADE (15)

Intelligent and unsettling drama starring writer-director Billy Bob Thornton as a mentally disabled man who is released into the outside world after spending his life in an institution. CW: Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Odeon Camden Town, Ritzy Cinema, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket

SIX DAYS, SEVEN NIGHTS (12)

Impossibly contrived romantic comedy in which Harrison Ford plays a boozey pilot who crash-lands with a New York magazine editor (Anne Heche) on a remote island. CW: Barbican Screen, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Hammersmith Virgin, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea

STIFF UPPER LIPS (15)

One of the most cheerfully pleasurable British movies in recent memory from the man who co-directed the absurd *Leon the Pig Farmer*. The film is a series of inspired riffs on Merchant/Ivory productions. West End: Plaza, Virgin Chelsea

THE TASTE OF CHERRY (PG)

The joint winner of last year's Palme d'Or has taken a year to get a release over here, but thanks to highly naturalistic performances, it's a hypnotic and moving experience. West End: Renoir

TOUCH (15)

Paul Schrader's adaptation of Elmore Leonard's novel turns a breezy satire into a rather heavy-handed investigation into religious conviction. CW: Plaza

THE WAR AT HOME (15)

Tale of a traumatised Vietnam veteran on his return home to Texas adapted from James Duff's Broadway play. Homefront. CW: Plaza

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS



Film John Wrathall

NOW THAT *Friends* is back on the air, you may feel that you're already getting enough of Jennifer Aniston's complicated New York love life, but the real attractions of Nicholas Hytner's *The Object of My Affection* are further down the cast list. Alison Janney is a scream as Aniston's bitchy sister, while Nigel Hawthorne is very dignified as the gay theatre critic who knows his youthful protégé won't be hanging around for long.

On general release
12 Angry Men (oboe) is an interesting choice for an open-air screening, as it is set entirely indoors in a cramped room where a New York jury determines the fate of a young man accused of murder. Henry Fonda nabbed the plum role, playing a man of conscience who confronts the prejudice of his fellow jurors. But he surrounded himself with the cream of New York character actors, including Lee J Cobb, Jack Warden and Jack Klugman. If it's a hot night in Alexandra Park, the sweaty, claustrophobic atmosphere of the jury room should be all the more intense.

Starlight Open Air Cinema, Alexandra Palace, London (0171-604 3100) sunset (around 9.15pm)

Theatre David Benedict

IT'S OPENING night in Oxford for the Almeida's touring production of Shaw's *The Doctor's Dilemma* (below). Director Michael Grandage makes a strong and thoroughly entertaining case for this rather neglected play about morality and the medical profession, encouraging bold but detailed performances from a cracking cast headed by Ian McDiarmid as a high-minded physician crossing swords with a passionate Victoria Hamilton.

Oxford Playhouse (01865 796600) 7.30pm
Any parents wondering what to do with small children on holiday should head for Hammersmith and Dr Dollittle. Steven Pinnott and his production team turn straw into gold and the Jim Henson animals are a delight.
Lobatt's Apollo Hammersmith, London W6 (0870 6663400) 7.30pm



Classical Duncan Hadfield

THERE IS little doubt that the young English composer Julian Anderson is one of our most exciting new voices. So ears will be pricking up at the Proms tonight to hear what he's come up with for his major BBC commission, *The Stations of the Sun*. Translucent textures and lightness of touch are promised in a piece which draws its inspiration from seasonal customs and the year's round. Andrew Davis (right) conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Royal Albert Hall, London (0171-589 8212) 7pm

Collectors of Handel operas have the chance to notch up another rarity when, from today, Broomhill Opera mounts a production of *Tolomeo*. Not performed in Britain in the original Italian since Handel's own day, *Tolomeo* is a densely plotted piece involving King Ptolemy's attempt to reclaim the throne of Egypt. Charles Sturridge directs and Nicholas Kraemer conducts the Raglan Baroque Players. Christ's Hospital, Horsham, Sussex (0181-300 1155) 6.45pm

Comedy James Rampton

WHILE HIS long-term double-act partner and fellow Giddy Kipper, Henry Naylor, takes a break, Andy Parsons (below) is striking out as a solo stand-up. In his new show, the host of Channel 5's *Foat Fight* is aiming to guide the audience through *The Seven Levels of Sitting in a Slightly Uncomfortable Seat* so they end up "breathless, uplifted and as legally high as possible". Appearing at the Pleasance, London N7 (0171-609 1800) 9pm

Mike Gunn, also known as "The Funeral Director", goes into areas not normally noted for their comic potential, in his new show, *Good Grief*. On the very edge of tastefulness, this is a dark, humorous take on the subject of death. *The Independent* has described Gunn as "the man who put the fun into funeral". Canal Cafe Theatre, London W2 (0171-289 6054) 7pm



CINEMA

WEST END

ABC BAKER STREET
(0171-935 9772) @ Baker Street
Godzilla 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.05pm
City 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 8.25pm
Sliding Doors 6.10pm

ABC PANTON STREET
(0171-439 0831) @ Piccadilly Circus
As Good As It Gets 2pm, 5pm, 8pm
The Big Lebowski 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm
Jackie Brown 1.30pm, 4.00pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm
Washington Square 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm

ABC PICCADILLY
(0171-437 3561) @ Piccadilly Circus
Burr In Seven 3.25pm, 8.25pm
Mistress - Meet Frank, Daniel & Laurence 1.25pm, 6.10pm
Mrs Brown 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE
(0171-438 6279) @ Leicester Square
Kiss Or Kill 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm
Live Flesh 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6pm, 8.25pm

ABC SWISS CENTRE
(0171-439 4470) @ Leicester Square
Deconstructing Harry 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm
Life Is All You Get 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm
My Sex The Fanatic 9pm
Shall We Dance? 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm
The Taste Of Cherry 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD
(0171-636 6148) @ Tottenham Court Road
Godzilla 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm
Sliding Doors 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

BARBICAN SCREEN
(0171-382 7000) @ Moorgate
The General 6pm
Love And Death On Long Island 8.40pm
Sliding Blade 6pm, 8.40pm

CHELSEA CINEMA
(0171-357 3742) @ Sloane Square
Love And Death On Long Island 2.20pm, 4.25pm, 6.35pm, 8.45pm

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE
(0171-498 2242) @ Clapham Common
Godzilla 12noon, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm
Life Is All You Get 7pm, 9.30pm
The Little Mermaid 12.15pm, 2.15pm, 4.15pm
Sliding Blade 3.45pm, 9pm
Sliding Doors 1.15pm, 6.45pm

CURZON MAYFAIR
(0171-389 1720) @ Green Park
Titanic 2.30pm, 7.30pm

ELEPHANT & CASTLE CORONET
(0171-703 4568) @ Elephant & Castle
Godzilla 2.30pm, 5.20pm, 8.10pm
Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.35pm
Mad City 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.30pm

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE
(0171-437 1234) @ Leicester Square
Godzilla 11.20am, 2.20pm, 5.30pm, 8.40pm
Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 12.40pm, 3.10pm, 6pm, 9pm
Sliding Doors 1pm, 3.20pm, 5.50pm, 8.10pm

GATE NOTTING HILL
(0171-727 4043) @ Notting Hill Gate
Love And Death On Long Island 1.55pm, 4.15pm, 6.35pm, 8.55pm

HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN
(0171-8070718) @ Ravenscourt Park
Barney's Great Adventure 12.30pm, 2.20pm, 4.15pm
Godzilla 12noon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm
Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm
The Little Mermaid 12noon, 2pm, 4.10pm
Mad City 6.15pm, 9pm
Six Days, Seven Nights 8.30pm
The Wedding Singer 8.45pm

METRO
(0171-437 0757) @ Piccadilly Circus
Leicester Square Love And Death On Long Island 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm
Ponette 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

CURZON MINEMA
(0171-389 1723) @ Knightsbridge
Life Is All You Get 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

NOTTING HILL CORONET
(0171-727 6705) @ Notting Hill Gate
Godzilla 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm

ODEON CAMDEN TOWN
(0181-315 4229) @ Camden Town
Godzilla 1.45pm, 5pm, 8.15pm
Kiss Or Kill 3.20pm, 6.40pm
The Object of My Affection 12.45pm, 2.45pm, 5.05pm, 7.30pm, 9.35pm
Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 1.35pm, 6.15pm, 9pm
Sliding Blade 1.40pm, 5.10pm, 8.25pm
The Wedding Singer 12.05pm, 2.20pm, 4.35pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm

ODEON HAYMARKET
(0181-315 4212) @ Piccadilly Circus
The Wedding Singer 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm

ODEON KENSINGTON
(0181-315 4214) @ High Street
Kensington City Of Angels 7.40pm
Godzilla 6pm, 9.10pm
The Object of My Affection 6.45pm, 9.30pm
Six Days, Seven Nights 7pm, 9.35pm
The Wedding Singer 7.15pm, 9.45pm

ODEON MARBLE ARCH
(0181-315 4216) @ Marble Arch City Of Angels 6.35pm, 9.20pm
Godzilla 11.30am, 1.15pm, 2.40pm, 5.05pm, 5.30pm, 6pm, 8.40pm, 9.35pm
Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 1.35pm, 4.15pm, 6.55pm, 9.35pm
The Little Mermaid 12.20pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm
Mad City 1.10pm, 3.55pm, 6.40pm, 9.25pm
Mousetrap 11.25am
Six Days, Seven Nights 1.15pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm
Sliding Doors 7.15pm, 9.45pm
Star Kid 11.05am
The Wedding Singer 7pm, 9.30pm

ODEON MEZZANINE
(0181-315 4215) @ Leicester Square
As Good As It Gets 5.45pm, 8.25pm
Point Blank 6.30pm, 8.55pm
The Replacement Killers 6.35pm, 8.45pm
Screen 2 6.05pm, 8.35pm

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE
(0181-315 4220) @ Swiss Cottage
The Big Lebowski 12.35pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.35pm
City Of Angels 12.25pm, 3.05pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm
Godzilla 12pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm
Point Blank 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.35pm, 8.55pm
Six Days, Seven Nights 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm
Sliding Doors 6.50pm, 9.15pm

ODEON WEST END
(0181-315 4221) @ Leicester Square
The Object of My Affection 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm
Six Days, Seven Nights 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm

PHOENIX CINEMA
(0181-444 6788) @ East Finchley
Live Flesh 8.45pm
Washington Square 4pm
The Wedding Singer 6.40pm

PLAZA
(0171-437 1234) @ Piccadilly Circus
Deep Impact 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm
Godzilla 1.15pm, 4.25pm, 6pm
Mojo 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.20pm
Touch 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.15pm

RENOIR
(0171-837 8402) @ Russell Square
Love And Death On Long Island 2.30pm, 4.25pm, 6.35pm, 8.45pm
The Thief 2.35pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm

RIO CINEMA
(0171-254 6677) @ Dalston Kingsland
Godzilla 2pm, 5pm, 8pm

RITZY CINEMA
(0171-737 2121/733 2229) @ Brixton
All Dogs Go To Heaven 10.30am
The Big Lebowski 12.15, 9.25pm
Godzilla 12noon, 3pm, 6.15pm, 9pm
Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 4.45pm, 7.05pm
Kurt & Courtney 12.35pm, 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.10pm
The Last World: Jurassic Park 10.30am
Love And Death On Long Island 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm
Ma Vie En Rose 3.05pm (+ The City Of Lost Children) Sliding Blade 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.50pm
Withnail & I 4.50pm

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET
(0171-486 0036) @ Baker Street
Kurt & Courtney 2.40pm, 4.45pm, 6.50pm, 8.55pm
Love And Death On Long Island 2.50pm, 4.55pm, 7pm, 9.05pm

SCREEN ON THE GREEN
(0171-225 3520) @ Angel/Highway
Islington Kurt & Courtney 3pm, 7pm, 9pm

SCREEN ON THE HILL
(0171-435 3366) @ Belsize Park
Love And Death On Long Island 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm (+ Short: Toy Boys)

UCI WHITELEYS
(0171-792 3332) @ Bayswater
Anastasia 11am
Barney's Great Adventure 11.55am, 1pm, 3.05pm, 5.05pm
City Of Angels 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.35pm, 9.20pm
Godzilla 11.10am, 11.40am, 2.20pm, 2.50pm, 5.30pm, 6pm, 8.40pm, 9.35pm
Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 1.35pm, 4.15pm, 6.55pm, 9.35pm
The Little Mermaid 12.20pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm
Mad City 1.10pm, 3.55pm, 6.40pm, 9.25pm
Mousetrap 11.25am
Six Days, Seven Nights 1.15pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm
Sliding Doors 7.15pm, 9.45pm
Star Kid 11.05am
The Wedding Singer 7pm, 9.30pm

VIRGIN CHELSEA
(0870-9070710) @ Sloane Square/South Kensington
Barney's Great Adventure 12noon, 2pm, 4pm
Godzilla 1.30pm, 5pm, 8.15pm
The Little Mermaid 12.10pm, 2.20pm, 4.10pm
The Object of My Affection 6pm, 8.30pm
Six Days, Seven Nights 6pm, 8.30pm, 8.45pm, 8.50pm, 9.30pm
The Wedding Singer 7pm, 9.15pm

VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD
(0870-9070711) @ South Kensington
The Big Lebowski 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm
City Of Angels 1.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm
Godzilla 12noon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm
Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 9pm
Guru In Seven 6.20pm, 8.50pm
The Little Mermaid 12.15pm, 2.15pm, 4.15pm
Mad City 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm
Mimic 6.10pm, 9pm
Soul Food 12.30pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.50pm

VIRGIN HAYMARKET
(0870-9070712) @ Piccadilly Circus
The Apple 2

100

TUESDAY RADIO

RADIO 1

(97.8-98.8MHz FM)
6.30 Kevin Greening and Zoe Ball.
9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Jo
Whaley. 3.00 Dave Pearce. 6.30
Steve Lamacq - the Evening
Session. 8.30 Digital Update.
8.40 John Peel. 10.30 Mary
Anna Hobbs. 1.00 Clive Warren.
4.00 - 6.30 Chris Moyles.

RADIO 2

(88-90.2MHz FM)
6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake
Up to Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce.
12.00 Jimmy Young. 2.00 Ed
Stewart. 5.05 John Dunn. 7.00
Carl Davis Classics. 8.00 Nigel
Ogden. 9.00 Saturday Morning
Cinema. See Pick of the Day. 10.00
Rodgers and Hart: a Thousand
Songs. 10.30 Richard Allinson.
12.05 Steve Madden. 3.00 - 4.00
Alex Lester.

RADIO 3

(90.2-92.4MHz FM)
6.00 On Air.
9.00 Masterworks.
10.30 Proms Artist of the Week.
11.00 Sound Stories.
12.00 Proms Composer of the
Week: Szymanowski.
1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime
Concert.
2.00 BBC Proms 98. (R)
3.45 Rubinstein.
4.00 Choral Voices.
4.45 Quartet.
5.00 In Tune.
7.00 BBC Proms 98.
7.45 Beethoven. A story by Pere-
lope Fitzgerald commissioned by
Radio 3 and BBC Music Magazine.
Once upon a time, there was an
old, reclusive composer who just
had to be lured out of retirement.
Reader David Troughton. (R)
8.05 Concert, part 2. Julian
Anderson: The Stations of the Sun
(first performance). Vaughan
Williams: Symphony No 3 (Pastoral).
9.20 Postscript. A five-part enter-
tainment compiled by and starring
Maureen Lipman, recasting
monologues, sketches and songs
originally written and performed by
comedian Joyce Grenfell. Featuring
two songs with music composed
by Richard Addinsell - 'All my
tomorrows' and 'Picture Postcard' -
and 'Lally Tuller', a steamy tale of
close relationships from a Victorian
veranda. (R)

PICK OF THE DAY

JOHN WALTERS celebrates the
lost world of Saturday Morning
Cinema (9pm R2) tonight. He
recalls mornings in the dark
spent chucking food at each other
and thrilling to the adventures of
Zorro, Flash Gordon and the
Children's Film Foundation. Stars
of the calibre of Keith Chegwin
(right) and Sally Thomsett queue
up to say how much it did for
them, which leads you to suspect
that its demise may not have
been such a bad thing after all.

The late Prom (10pm R3)
features the first broadcast of
John Harle's new opera, *Angel
Magick*, another alchemical-
metaphysical fiction (of Peter
Ackroyd's novel *The House of Dr
Dee* inspired by the Elizabethan
magician and astrologer John
Dee, here depicted on a search for
"radical truths"). Bear in
mind that the main thing about
alchemy was that it was
completely wrong.
ROBERT HANKS



RADIO 5 LIVE

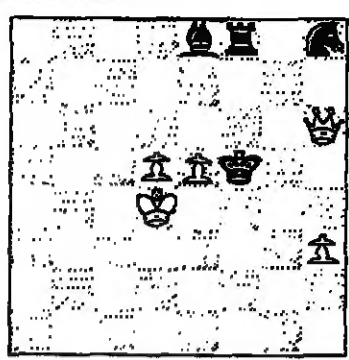
(89.3, 90.9kHz MW)
6.00 The Breakfast Programme.
9.00 Nicky Campbell.
12.00 The Midday News.
1.00 Ruscoe and Co.
4.00 Nationwide.
7.00 News Extra.
7.30 Any Sporting Questions?
John Inverdale is at Bath RUFC
with a live audience putting the
questions to his panel of top
sporting guests, including Bath
and former Wales rugby union
captain Iwan Evans, and Britain's
number one women's 400m
runner, Alison Curbishley.
9.00 Extra Time. Presented by
Mark Steel.
10.00 Late Night Live. The day's
big stories with Nick Robinson.
Including 10.30 a full sports round-
up, 11.00 News and finance. And
between 11.30 and 1.00 a sharp
and spirited late-night topical
discussion.
1.00 Up At Night.
5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.
CLASSIC FM
(100.0-101.9MHz FM)
6.00 Michael Mappin. 6.00 Henry
Kelly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00
Concerto. 3.00 Jamie Crook. 6.30
Newsnight. 7.00 Smooth Classics
at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert.
11.00 Alan Martin. 2.00 Concerto.
3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths.
Virgin Radio
(102.1-102.4MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Jonathan Ross. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 10.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM. 6.00 Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Peter
Poutoun. 5.00 Jeremy Clark.
World Service
(198kHz LW)
1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 The Farming
World. 1.45 Britain Today. 2.00
Newsdesk. 2.30 Discovery. 3.00
Newsday. 3.30 Meridian (Live).
4.00 World News. 4.05 World
Business Report. 4.35 Sports
Roundup. 4.50 The World Today.
TALK RADIO
7.00 New Talk Radio Breakfast
Show. 9.00 Scott Crisheim. 11.00
Lorraine Kelly. 1.00 Anne Robinson.
3.00 Tommy Boyd. 5.00 Peter
Dinkley. 7.00 Nick Abbot. 9.00
James White. 1.00 Ian Collins.
5.00 - 7.00 The Early Show.

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESS

WILLIAM HARTSTON

THIS LITTLE problem (composed
by the Hungarian Mor Ehrenstein
in 1888) is a perfect miniature. If
Black's rook were not there, Qf6
would be mate, but what is White's
mating move going to be after a
bishop or knight move? 1.h4 sug-
gests itself, to threaten Qg5 mate,
but 1...Kg4 escapes.
White's problem is to keep f4 cov-
ered when he checks with his
queen, and that should suggest the
key: 1.Kx3! Now 1...Kxe5 2.Qe6 is
mate; Nf7, Bf7 or Rg8 allow Qf6; Bg1
allows Qf4 and Ng6 is met by Qh5.



White to play and mate in two

CREATIVITY

WILLIAM HARTSTON

THIS WEEK'S topic of Viagra seems
to have stimulated a large number
of readers into creative fecundity. "I
don't expect that you'll use any of
my suggestions," Lindsay Warden
moans, "since there's bound to be
such stiff competition." She thinks
it might be used to help marsh-
mallows fit into slot machines and
recommends leaving some on top
of the television set if the vertical
hold is wobbly.

"What with road rage, testos-
terone and phallic overtones,"
David Bishop says, "couldn't the
world's leading motor company
bring out a Ford Viagra?" Adrian
Banfield wants to spray it on the
Tower of Pisa to help keep it
straight. Bob Horrocks wants to
spray it over the Millennium Dome
to ensure that it stays up for 1,000
years, or over Richard Branson's
balloon to prevent deflation.
Richard Metcalfe writes: "Virtu-
ally impotent Apathetic Guys Rise
Again". Nigel Plevin thinks that an
overdose of Viagra might have
raised the Titanic but sees its main
use as increasing hanging space in
nudist colonies. (Michael Riggs
sees it as providing perches for
parrots in similar circumstances.)

"Viagra? In Creativity?" Geoff-
rey Langley asks incredulously.
"Cole to Newcastle indeed!" Stan
Cole herself denies any need for the
drug but thinks that the use of it by
others could aid her attempt to get
into the Guinness Book of Records.
Richard Cooper gallantly says that
"with Ms Cole in mind, who needs
anything artificial?" Len Clarke
suggests that Ms Cole could prevent
Father Christmas from escaping
back up the chimney by leaving
some Viagra in his glass of whisky.
Several readers mentioned the
line from Henry V: "Stiffen the
sinews, summon up the blood," but
only Mike Gifford added "Your old

men shall dream dreams" from the
Book of Joel. Doug Whethery
dreams of Viagra as a way to heat
flat tires, to turn floppy disks into
hard discs, to convert soft furnish-
ings into fixtures and fittings, and
as an aerosol to aid court ushers
when they cry: "Be upstanding in
court". Roy Askew warns bird-
watchers that Viagra could make
them even ornerier-thologists.

"Put some Viagra into your garden
hose to stop it kinking," Jan Moor
advises. Noel Mitchell suggests
that a dose given to pigs before
slaughter could result in the
world's first long-life sausage, if the
skin doesn't split. Duncan Bull re-
commends using Viagra as a mous-
tache lotion to help the British
maintain a stiff upper lip. Graham
Muirhead wants to add Viagra to
Niagara "to make the biggest
waterspout in the world". Norman
Foster's uncle Percy has his collar
stiffened with Viagra. Gerard Ben-
son uses it to turn question marks
into exclamation marks. He thinks
it's rotten the way everybody's tak-
ing a rise out of Viagra.

Other uses: Stop flowers wilting,
or add Indian rope trick (Martin
Brown); free with copies of Dick-
ens's *Hard Times* or to turn Sid
Little into Eddie Large (Bruce Bir-
chall). Frank Middlemass laments
its stiff price. Maggy Riggs warns:
"What goes up must come down."
Chambers Dictionary prizes to
Lindsay Warden, Bob Horrocks and
Doug Whethery. Next week, tubes
of Locit for the best ideas of
things to do with superglue. Mean-
while, following the open at Birk-
dale, we wonder what has
happened to all those gaudy
checked trousers all golfers used to
wear. Has anyone any ideas? We'll
welcome them at Creativity, *The
Independent*, 1 Canada Square,
Canary Wharf, London E14 6DL.

SATELLITE AND CABLE

PICK OF THE DAY

THE MOUNTAIN stages of Live
Cycling: Tour de France (10am
Eurosport) are likely to provide
defending champion Jan Ullrich
with his first real test of the Tour.
The German ballooned out of
shape during the winter and lost
his overall tour lead to the
Frenchman, Laurent Desbiens,
on Sunday. Few believe he can
win again, but today's 10th stage,
197kms from Pau to Luchon in
the Pyrenees, will go some way
towards settling the argument.

Kicking your heels between the
World Cup and the new football
season? Live Football (5pm
Eurosport) brings coverage of
the UEFA Cup qualifying round
while even snacker slackers can
enjoy Ferris Bueller's Day Off
(8pm Sky Movies Gold), an
enjoyably childish take on
skiving. Matthew Broderick
(right) is the nauseatingly
privileged adolescent taking it
easy like a spilt Tom Sawyer.
PETER CONCHIE



Tour de France (27.12). 10.00 Cycling:
Tour de France (1985-1995) See Pick of
the Day. 4.00 Offroad (28.12). 5.00
Football (28.12). 7.00 Strength (28.12).
8.00 Boxing (28.12). 9.00 Cycling:
Tour de France (28.12). 11.00 Motor-
cycling (28.12). 12.00 Close.

UK GOLD
7.00 Crossroads (28.12). 7.30 Neigh-
bours (28.12). 7.55 EastEnders
(28.12). 8.30 The Bill (28.12). 9.00
The Bill (28.12). 9.30 Stay Lucky
(28.12). 10.00 The Bill (28.12).
10.30 Neighbours (28.12). 11.00
EastEnders (28.12). 11.30 Brookside
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Dales (28.12). 1.00 The Bill (28.12).
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Dangerfield (28.12). 3.30 EastEnders
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Small Screen (28.12). 5.30 The Comedy
Alternative: 20th Century Children (28.12).
7.00 The Comedy Alternative: Waiting
for God (28.12). 8.30 The Comedy Al-
ternative: Dead Army (28.12). 9.00
Hotel (28.12). 9.30 The Bill (28.12).
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Channel 5

6.00 5 News and Sport (S) (347083) **7.00** **WideWorld (T)**
(7) (1507150) **7.30** **Maths4real (S)** (9898912) **7.35** **Wind**
the Whirls (R) (8644082) **8.00** **Havakazoo (3614044)**
8.30 **Dappledown Farm (R)** (3583315) **9.00** **Starting**
from Scratch (3637855) **9.30** **The Oprah Winfrey Show**
(S) (8892805) **10.30** **Sineal Beach (S)** (48888) **11.00**

2.00 FILM **Cave of Outlaws** (William Casle, 1951, US). The search for hidden gold draws various Bar-movie actors.

3.20 FIRM *Mr King's Great War* (Penguin Classics, 1970) US). Unusual and very decent adventure yarn set in Africa just before the start of the Second World War. It stars John Saxton and Toph Hedden as a couple defending the game reserve against the encroachments of both British

5.00 100 Per Cent. Three more isolated individuals are faced with a barrage of unrelated questions (S) (18:30ff).

6:30 Family Affairs. Dave goes back to Suele about his weird neighbour. Duncan distraught because he cannot see the twins (S) (T) (165/192).

7:30 Osaka Aircon. Some of the baseballs that hang out down the Okawango Swamp, where the Okavango River meets the Kalahari desert. In Botswana. (P) (55/076)

8.00 Hidden Worlds. And another wildlife documentary, this one about the hidden world beneath the sand (S). (R228792)

CHOICE *Bad Girls* (Jonathan Kaplan 1994 US). *Theirs* and *Louise* meets the western - sort of - as four possibilities go the run in a male-dominated world. See *Girls* after *Don* below on resonant.

Case report of a 56-year-old woman (17) (see Table 1).


1055 The Jack Docharty Show (S) (284686)

11:35 La Femme Nikita (R) (S) (E282647) **12:30 Live and Dangerous (S)** (Z271853) **1:40 Live and Dangerous (S)** (E5298803) **3:45 Asian Football Show (S)** (7197071) **4:40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (M33005)** **5:30 100 Per Cent (S)** (S842718) To learn

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